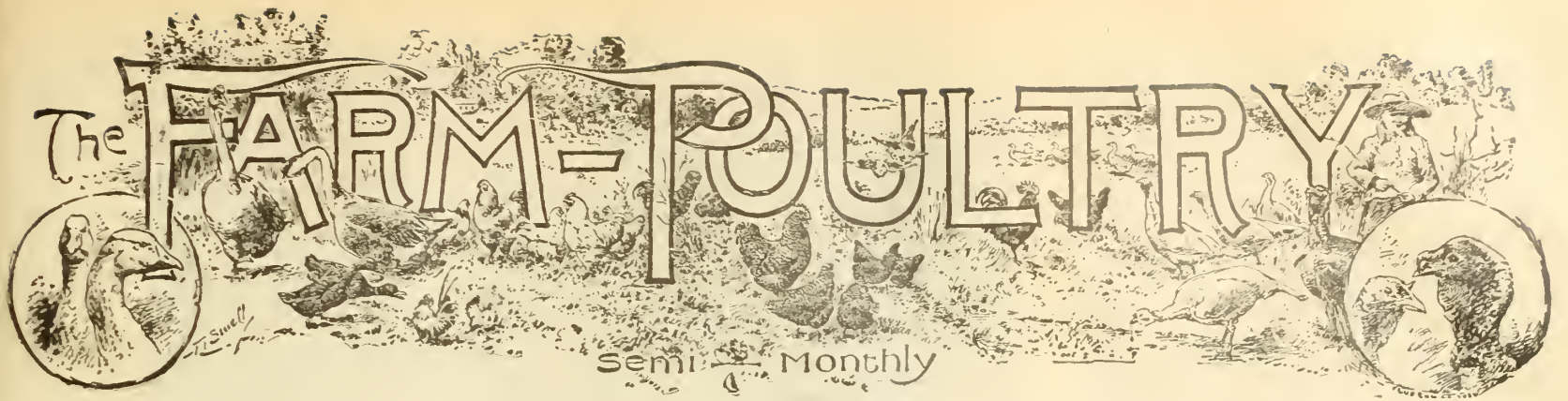


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VOL. 16

BOSTON, MASS., NOVEMBER 15, 1905

No. 22.

# Two Thousand Hens in One House

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—Now that the 1000 first pullets are safe in house No. 2, the 1000 seconds are in the large colour houses waiting to be put in house No. 3, the cockerels all sold for broilers except the best, and all the runt and dragging pullets disposed of in the same way, I take pleasure in replying to your very courteous treatment of my article on "Two Thousand Hens in One House."

I notice that in facing the house you say "south or south east," while it should read a trifle south of south east. This is an extremely important point, as it gives the greatest amount of sun when the sun is south of the line, and the least amount when it is north and not wanted.

Of the genesis of the house I might say that having given up my Massachusetts plant in 1898, I spent several years in visiting many large poultry farms, studying buildings and methods of care, and evolved this house, "de novo," as a solution of the problem as to how a man who was fortunately or unfortunately a chicken crank, could devote his entire time to the poultry business and make a living, the element of labor to be paid for having eaten up all the actual profits on most plants, and leaving to the proprietor nothing but the pleasure of fooling himself.

To make the egg business, or any other business pay at the present time, the cost of production must be reduced to a minimum. The eggs must be produced at so low a cost that there is a profit in them in the open market at the prices paid for clean guaranteed fresh eggs. The man who starts in the poultry business figuring on fancy prices from hotels, clubs, and private trade, will spend time and money which he needs on his plant, and meet disappointment. This trade will come to any plant properly run, in time, but many heartaches will be spared if all energy is directed to producing the egg that costs 6, 8, or 10 cents per dozen.

In regard to the dirt question, twice a year we fill in "down stairs" to within two or three inches of the bottom of the sills, in order to have a sure supply of dry dirt at all times for the upper floor and for dusting. Once in three weeks, or whenever the straw litter below becomes broken up and foul, it is removed and spread on the mowing land, and then the farmer helps the poultryman to throw upstairs the top soil from below—this operation, including the hauling of fresh straw, takes two men less than two hours—the object being not only to supply fresh earth above, but to remove the more or less contaminated top dirt below. By this method there is no chance for the dirt to become sick, or what is even worse, for the dust therefrom to become a source of disease by reason of the large percentage of dried excrement it contains. At the semi-annual cleaning all walls are brushed down clean and sills and posts whitewashed—so that twice a year the house is practically new.

In regard to trap nesting 2000 hens, it is comparatively very little work, when the saving from sterile hens is con-

sidered. We use the "Welcome" trap, our nest boxes being built in panels of five, two panels between windows on each side of house, making twenty nests for each 135 hens. The boxes stand on legs 12 inches from floor, with an 8 inch running board in front. This board is held up in place during the day by a small chain caught in a nail on the board, and dropped at night, thus avoiding the labor of locking each nest at night. The doors containing the traps are hinged and held closed by a wooden drop catch at the top. The top of nest boxes slants to the wall at an angle of 45°, and this is slatted so that the interior of nest is visible at all times. The attendant goes through the house every hour and takes off every hen that is up and trying to get out, not disturbing those that are quiet. (This I consider most important, as disturbing a hen before the egg voiding organs have resumed their normal

one foot above earth floor down stairs with running board 6 inches from floor, covered with slanting board to keep hens out of water. A spigot with underground cut off for each trough and a waste pipe under the outlet. These troughs are washed out thoroughly and emptied each night. Our feed troughs are the same without wooden ends, and a lath projecting in over each side to prevent hens from scratching out feed. These are scalded out when necessary. The covered devices and strips over top of troughs to prevent hens getting in them are worse than useless, as they prevent cleanliness.

In regard to feeding, we have tried all methods; with fresh water, plenty of fresh air and exercise, clean sweet grain in variety, plenty of green food and green cut bone; it makes little difference whether you dry feed, or feed mash—only if the latter is to be used you will have to begin to educate your pullets to eat it before they are four months old or they will not eat enough to do any good.

In a recent article in your paper you denied that there was no future for large commercial poultry plants, but said that we would have to have a very different breed of poultrymen. This, Mr. Editor, is the gist of the whole matter. I will not have a so-called poultryman on the place. The majority of them are a combination of conceit, a tremendous knowledge of the things that are not so, a fair percentage of laziness and carelessness about small matters that are vital, and a smattering of incubator, brooder house, and breeding knowledge. I will take the ordinary farm laborer, who is sober and decent, or a clerk from some department store, and get better service and better results than from 90% of the poultrymen. In labor of any kind if you overwork a man, he will do one of two things, viz.: shirk or wear out; either is fatal to results in any business, but especially to the poultry craft. We solve the labor problem by taking in a limited number of students, charge them a good fee for the training, work them as hard as if they were being paid well for their work, but if after a week's trial they do not develop the courtesy and kindly interest to which a hen is entitled, we return them their money and let them depart.

In the original "Northfield Range," three years ago we started the "Burr" house, building a section at a time, with shifting end bulkhead—this, by the way, is a good way for any beginner to start and increase as his capital or capacity for the business will permit. On January 1st we had in 60 feet of this house 500 late hatched pullets, and 300 yearling hens, and got one egg on January 1st; we sold off in January 400 hens and pullets, leaving a flock of 400—from which to July 31st, we lost and killed 25 hens, leaving an average of 387 for the seven months. During that period we received from them 31,564 eggs, or an average of over 78 eggs per hen for seven months. This from a flock without any particular breeding, mostly immature, late hatched pullets, with no labor to pay, on a feed ration daily averaging 50 pounds H-O



Pen of Columbian Wyandottes of Elmlown Poultry Farm, Roymond, N. H.

position must be a cause of much disease of those parts). By passing one hand through the trap quietly and grasping one wing at the shoulder, with the other hand lifting the catch, when the door opens you have your hen, read her number, smooth her feathers, and drop her. They soon become accustomed to it, and as we have no males in the flock consider it a part of the performance of laying, usually giving themselves a satisfied shake of the feathers, and walk off singing. We have six small holes bored in the top of box, like a cribbage board, and a small nail, and for each egg left in nest we peg one hole, so that we know whether the hen taken off has laid or not. This avoids the necessity of gathering eggs but twice daily. It takes about twenty-five minutes to make the round of both houses in the morning, and less in the afternoon. We have four water troughs in each wing, galvanized 4 inch rounded edge gutter with ends soldered in and outlet pipe 1 inch for cork at one end; 10 feet long, in each house set up



Burr House No. 1, on Belle Hill White Leghorn Range, Elkton, Md., owned by Mr. John R. Johnson, of Philadelphia.

feed or its equivalent, with 10 lbs. beef scraps, (green bone three times a week), and 24 qts. of mixed grain in litter. The greatest number of eggs in any one day was 298, and we ran over 60% for three months. To get eggs from any flock in paying quantities, it is necessary to breed from the hen which persistently lays under adverse circumstances all the year round, and not from the hen laying the greatest number of eggs. Vigor, health, a good digestion, and a disposition to lay early in the fall, are far more important, than a 220—250 egg record. The granddaughter of two 200+ hens whose mother may only lay 150 eggs, but has the health qualifications will prove a far better "egg machine" than one bred on the lines of the Maine station.

The start on the present plant was made late last fall, houses not completed until winter; stock except what I brought from Northfield, such as the large breeders send you in hundred lots, where you do not pick them out. One breeder sent us diphtheritic roup, and another chicken pox,—both of which epidemics had to be stamped out in the winter and early spring,—one large breeder sending 200 late June hatched pullets for April hatch, and making a cash allowance for something no money could pay: viz.—the mixing in a large flock of a lot of undeveloped pullets, that act on the morale of the flock as the "huddlers" do on a lot in the brooders.

From January 1st to August 1st from an average of less than 1000, we bought 400 yearling hens in May for next year's breeding stock. We received from this flock under these adverse conditions over 98,000 eggs, and are receiving now from 124 to 180 eggs daily through the molt. Speaking of



R. C. Buff Orpington Cock in 1st Pen at Madison Square Show, 1905; also 1st Cockerel at Madison Square, 1904.  
J. W. Andrews, Dover, N. J.

molt, I am glad to see your views on the forced molt, and if you care for some physiological data thereon I will be pleased to give them. We begin feeding for the molt in June, on the same principle that you would feed a typhoid patient all he can assimilate, and not wait until convalescence begins before trying to catch up what you have lost. As imitation is the sincerest flattery, and my students are building these houses on their own plants and for others, there must be some virtue in the idea; as you say, only time will tell whether thorough cleanliness and repeated cultivation of the soil will prevent the ground from becoming chicken sick. If it does I will build an extra house and grow a late crop of potatoes in the yard.

I enclose photo. of the No. 1 house on the Belle Hill White Leghorn Range, at Elkton, Md., belonging to Mr. John R. Johnson, of Philadelphia. The photo. shows the front without its winter sash, the two lower clapboards being hinged to give air when sash are closed, and the end showing the arrangement of the lower shutters; there being the same under each window on the north side. I have learned many things and done many things I would not do again, but we have here now on this plant everything to my mind in perfect condition for a fair test this year—1000 yearling hens in No. 1 house, east wing; 1000 April and May pullets in west wing; 1000 May and June pullets in No. 3 house; the data of the results as they transpire, you are welcome to if you think them of sufficient interest.

BUCHANAN BURR.

Elkton, Md.

## Preparing Geese for Christmas in England

UNTIL within the last few years the goose was the favorite dish in this country on Christmas day, but the fashion has changed somewhat during the last decade, and the turkey has in a large measure usurped its position. Notwithstanding this, however, the demand for well grown and well fattened geese is greater than ever, and there is no fear whatever of the supply exceeding the demand. Prices are not quite as good as was the case a few years ago, with the result that many farmers and others seem to be under the impression that this branch of the poultry industry is better left severely alone. When, however, one takes into consideration the fact that no class of birds are so easy to rear as goslings, or so cheap to bring up to killing age, it must be admitted that this branch is an exceedingly profitable one, and worthy of anyone's attention. Apart from the actual money that it is possible to make from geese, there is another important point to bear in mind. No other class of poultry do the land over which they roam as much benefit as geese, and I have known cases of poor land, land that did not pay for cultivation, but was merely an occasional sheep walk, converted into a tolerably good pasture solely through stocking it heavily with geese for four or five years. They have the effect of encouraging the finer grasses at the expense of the coarser, unprofitable ones. It is always well to realize one's limitations as well as one's possibilities, and thus at the very outset let it be remarked that it is of little use attempting to keep geese in very restricted areas. They must have an abundance of space in which to roam if they are to be kept healthy and prove really profitable.

Of the nine breeds of domesticated geese, only two are employed to any extent in this country—the Toulouse and the Embden. The former is the largest domesticated breed there is, and is rather slow in growth, thus it is of more service for the Christmas trade. It is gray and white in plumage, of massive proportions, with great depth of body, carrying a large amount of flesh on the breast and wings. The Toulouse is an excellent layer, producing from 40 to 45 eggs in the course of the season. The Embden is a smaller bird, but a quicker grower, and at a time when the Toulouse is tall and lanky, with scarce any flesh upon the carcass, the Embden is plump and ready for killing. It is a pure white bird, with first class quality flesh, superior to that of the Toulouse. The eggs from the Embden are rather larger than those from the Toulouse, but are not quite as numerous, not exceeding more than 30 to 35 in the course of the season.

The trade in geese is divided into two distinct seasons, Michaelmas and Christmas. As would naturally be expected, the former trade is mostly supplied by the Embden, as by the end of September the Toulouse is not in a fit state for killing. The prices are a little higher at Michaelmas, probably owing to the fact that the supply is very limited, the majority of farmers preferring to keep their birds on till Christmas, and then, while perhaps procuring rather less per pound, the greater size of the birds brings in more money. At Christmas the demand for all classes of geese is practically unlimited, and for well prepared specimens there is not the least difficulty in obtaining from 16 to 20 cents per pound. To some extent the weight determines the price, the large birds being in greater demand. Ten years ago there was no difficulty in procuring as much as 30 to 32 cents per pound, but such a price is unknown nowadays. Geese are the only class of poultry the prices for which have diminished

during recent years, in every other case there having been a decided increase. At the same time 16 to 20 cents per pound leaves an excellent margin for profit, and I think anyone will find themselves well repaid by rearing and fattening geese.

As soon as the corn is removed off the land it is customary to turn the geese out upon the stubbles, and under such conditions they require no extra food. Frequently a farm lad is given charge of a flock of geese, allowing them to wander about the fields, and seeing they do no damage to any standing crops. In France, in many parts of which huge numbers of geese are fattened, and where practically every cottager keeps a few birds, it is the custom for the women of the household, after they have done their morning's work, about ten o'clock, to go out for the remainder of the day, watching their flock of geese, and whiling away the hours by knitting. In such a way the cost of feeding is reduced to a minimum, as for weeks together they received no food but what they are able to procure for themselves. Another system that I have sometimes adopted with success is to erect a few portable houses, and scatter them about the fields in all directions. Such houses require to be very cheaply and simply made. A low shed answers the purpose well, and it is advisable to have the front of wire netting, so that the birds within may have plenty of fresh air—so essential to the well being of all and every class of stock. No floor is needed, as the birds are best upon the ground itself, wood, cement, or bricks all being unsuitable for geese, while, of course, the last two are impracticable for portable houses. The houses would be placed about the farm, under the lee of a hedge, or in a sheltered position, and it will be found that in such sheds the geese thrive and develop well. And there is another advantage, the importance of which is frequently overlooked. When the geese are driven out to the fields in the mornings and home again at nights, the exercise is bound to reduce their flesh, and thus more food is needed, increasing the expense of fattening. Another system of feeding during the autumn months is to huddle the geese off on turnips, swedes, or mangels, in the same manner as sheep. I was assured a while ago by a large farmer in Norfolk that he had done this for many years with splendid results. Not only did he find that the geese fattened well and ate the

roots off quite closely, but, which to him, was more important, they manured the land just as well.

The period of fattening proper, or of actually finishing the birds for market, takes about four to five weeks, and during this time the birds are best confined altogether in a large roomy shed, where there is a sufficiency of pure air and plenty of light. They appear to thrive better when kept in batches of about twenty or twenty-five; certainly on no account should they be confined in twos or threes; rather than this, keep them all, however many, together. As far as possible the whole batch should be killed at once, as if a few are taken out now and then the remaining ones will be found to be emaciated and quite unfit for killing. It would seem as though the ones left behind fretted for those already killed, and this explains why generally the last few of a batch are so thin compared with the early ones. When possible it should be so arranged that all those fattened together in the same pen are killed at once.

The fattening birds should receive two meals a day—soft food in the mornings, and hard grain at nights. A variety of meals may successfully be used for the purpose, but those in most general use are barley meal and what is termed middlings. Middlings also goes by other names in different parts of the country, being called toppings, pollard, sharps, thirds, and seconds. These terms all relate to the same meal, namely, the product half way between flour and bran. The barley meal and middlings should be mixed in equal proportions, and made into a crumbly moist condition with skim milk, or, failing this, water. The former gives considerably better results, producing flesh of excellent quality and flavor. To add weight to the birds, though possibly at the expense of quality, equal proportions of middlings, barley meal, and maize meal is a good mixture, but one that we find frequently gives the meat a rather greasy appearance. Bean and pea meals should be carefully avoided, as they have the tendency of producing somewhat hard flesh. Brewers' grains in small quantities are a good and a cheap food, also boiled potatoes, mashed and dried off with the meals.

For the afternoon feeding, hard grain should be employed, oats giving the very best results, producing flesh of the finest quality, firm and yet not hard. Beans and peas should be avoided; also maize. Wheat or barley may be used instead of the oats, but the quality of the flesh produced is not quite as fine. The grains are made much more digestible by steeping in water for a few hours previous to feeding, and the small amount of labor involved in preparing the food in this manner is repaid by the better thriving of the geese. A plentiful supply of pure fresh water should at all times be available for the birds, and should be renewed two or three times a day. Grit must also be provided, as without it the food cannot be properly digested.

Before killing, the geese should be starved for about twenty hours, as this is quite sufficient to empty the system of all food. Killing usually takes place by piercing the brain with the point of a sharp knife. This delays plucking a few minutes, as the birds have to be hung up by the legs in order to let the blood drain freely away. When all the feathers are removed, the birds should be placed between two boards, with a weight resting upon the topmost one. They should be allowed to remain in this position till quite cold, when they should be carefully packed and despatched to market with the least delay.

E. T. BROWN.

University College, Reading, Eng.



First Pen R. C. Buff Orpingtons, Madison Square Garden Show, 1905.  
J. W. Andrews, Dover, N. J.



Partial View of Springer Bros.' Plant at Bridgeton, N. J.

## Selecting Laying Hens by Observation

“ONE WHO is much among his fowls, observing them closely, can form a pretty good idea of the relative laying capacities of the hens. If the hens cannot be watched quite closely, trap nests should be used.”—“Poultry-Craft,” page 150, 1899 edition.

I have often regretted that it was not my good fortune to see a copy of “Poultry-Craft” until late in the year 1903, because since that time I have been unable to devote so much time to my hens as I previously did, and, consequently, have been unable to profit so much by the valuable information as I otherwise might.

I have read considerable about selecting laying hens by observation, but it seems to me that many poultry keepers who read anything in that line in the poultry journals must be struck with the lack of specific detailed information that will prove up acceptably in their own experience. Granting that the skilled observer can discover much that many others fail to note or understand, still some of us feel that our experience justifies us in claiming that the observationist learns what he accurately does learn in regard to the relative laying qualities of his hens, at a much greater expenditure of time, in the aggregate, than would be necessary if means that some of us regard as being better were adopted.

I have received a considerable number of letters during the past few years from poultry keepers who are with their hens a great deal, yet say that they are unable to detect, by observation, the differences in the laying capacities of their hens.

Since the latter part of 1893 my hens have been furnished with trap nests. I believe in the trap nesting system, and I believe that its continuous commercial exploitation is necessary to make it of the greatest benefit to the greatest number. All the improvement that has been made in that line has been solely due to continuous commercial effort against great odds.

I cannot write upon any phase of poultry keeping which naturally involves that system without referring, directly or by implication, to it and at the same time deal honestly with my subject and my experience. Those who, in uncharitable haste, jump to the conclusion that such references are shrewdly introduced for the purpose of advancing personal interests specifically, cannot know that those interests can almost invariably be much better served by silence. I have declined invitations to write on the subject much more often than I have accepted them.

This article begins with a quotation from a book that I value very highly, a book in which I have found much that my own observations, checked by trap nests and records, have confirmed, and much that is in advance of my experience, study, or interest. In no spirit of contradiction, but as an offset to a very common misunderstanding in regard to the necessary limitations of practical trap nests and the claims made for observation, I will say here that the important information that practical equipments of practical trap nests can give cannot, by anyone, be obtained by observation alone with so little necessary expenditure of time. I do not desire to precipitate any discussion, but if I must discuss the matter I would prefer to do so with a competent antagonist; a pleasure that has never yet been mine in connection with trap nests or their use.

It is probably impossible for those who plunge ahead of their own limited experience or study to realize the really wonderful blunders they are likely to make. We are all familiar

with that ancient aphorism that indicates how precipitately certain mortals enter where celestial beings are unwilling to trust themselves.

### Selecting the Layers.

This is, I suppose, an old method. I do not recall just where I first learned of it. It is the only one of the kind that my limited powers of observation have enabled me to make anything of. There is something in this, but how much is for others to say. I do not either guarantee or recommend it. Its practical application in my experience began in this way: when culling my flocks for the purpose of getting out the unprofitable layers, I had individual egg records for a positive guide. Going over these records, I would copy off the leg band numbers of such birds as my past experience taught me could not be retained with profit, judged by their laying history. With these numbers for a check, I could test my judgment of the relative laying value of the birds as judged by observation. Any observation theory that won't stand that test is untenable.

### Observe the Hens at Feeding Time.

When hens are being properly fed they should manifest a keen appetite at meal time if meals are served regularly. If any individual birds stand aloof from the bustling flock, or peck at the food in a half-hearted way, there is something the matter with them. Occasionally, I have found such a bird (usually a pullet) that was only temporarily out of condition, egg bound perhaps, but as a rule their band numbers would appear on my culling list as taken from the egg records either then or later.

### Their Roosting Habits.

But it was on the roosts that I obtained more interesting information. As I recall the matter now, I had over 200 head in six pens. The roosts are level in twos or threes, one behind another. After the birds had finished their evening meal, it still quite light, they disported themselves in various ways. As a rule, those that went to roost first went to the back roost, and those that busied themselves scratching in the litter or foraging about as long as they could see, and consequently were the last to go to roost, roosted in front of the others. Absurdly simple, isn't it? but I usually (I cannot say always) found my non-layers and poor layers on those portions of the roosts that darkened first as night fell, and my best layers (at that time) on that portion that darkened last. I have found that the hen that goes to roost much in advance of her mates will linger on the roost longer in the morning, and is very likely not laying.

The hen that roosts in the daytime I would always spot as a non-layer in absence of positive evidence to the contrary. If any of the hens are laying, those that regularly remain off the roosts the longest time each day — late to roost and early off — are likely to be laying the best at that particular period, perhaps, but I have been unable to find so close a relation between observed traits and the actual number of eggs laid in a given time as might be supposed.

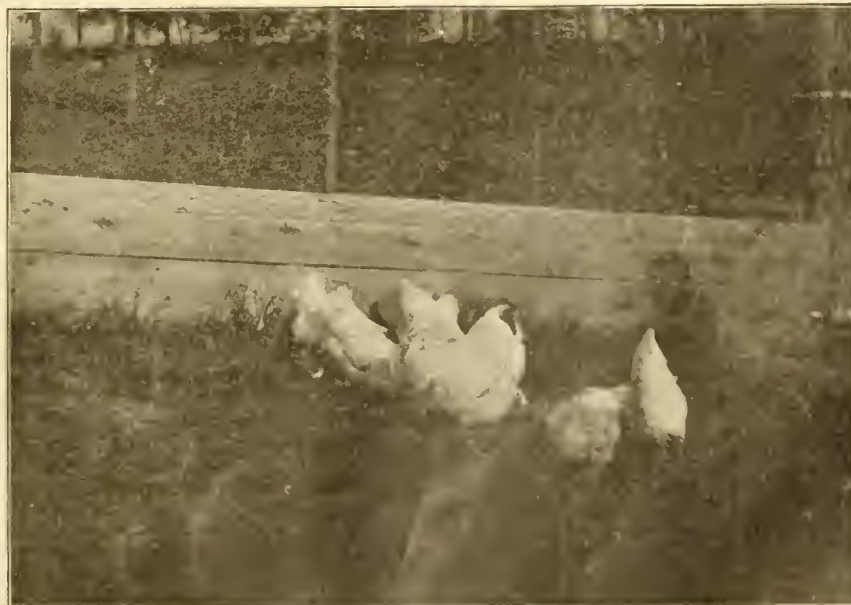
To the extent described, one method of selection by observation has received some support from trap nest evidence in one poultry keeper's experience. As the whole matter appears to be founded upon the physiological fact that egg production makes a special demand for food aside from that needed for the support of the fowl, it follows that differences in the inherited qualities of fowls and differences in methods of feeding would modify the relation between the observed actions of individuals and the actual numbers of eggs being laid in a given time.

It certainly seems to me that, at the very best, any observed traits or any observed physical characteristics can only suggest that the bird is laying well or ill in relation to her own capacity, not in relation to some other bird's capacity. The idea, for instance, that any hen that is capable of laying 200 eggs in one year, in suitable condition, can be distinguished from any hen that is incapable of laying more than 100 eggs in one year, in any condition, is one that cannot be sustained by either fact or logic. Such a theory necessarily involves the inconceivable premise that nature and poultry breeders generally have already established and successfully followed a standard of individual egg production stated in terms of about so many eggs within a definitely limited period. It has not been done. Such hens cannot be told apart to any generally practical extent by observation unless the difference is due to a physical defect in the poorer layer.

### Nesting Habits.

As a general thing, the poultry keeper who notices certain hens on the nests nearly every day, or cackling frequently as though they had recently laid, feels justified in believing that those hens are laying well at that particular time. He is likely to be right much of the time, but the accurate value of such evidence is much modified by the unquestionable fact that many hens have some obscure trouble with the organs of reproduction that prevents laying, yet causes them to visit a nest frequently, sometimes for a long period. It is also a fact that many a hen cackles when she has not laid, and will not lay, and many fine layers seldom, if ever, cackle. It would seem to be important that the relative laying qualities of the hens be known, at least approximately. Many believe that extremely heavy layers should not be bred from. If so, then they as well as the poor layers must be known if their eggs are to be avoided in the breeding season.

F. O. WELLCOME.



Pen of White Rocks Headed by First Cockerel and Ivory Soap Special at Pittsburg, 1904.

Springer Bros., Bridgeton, N. J.

# Eliminating Non-Layers and Poor Layers

I HAVE sometimes thought that my judgment in the matter of selecting hens for layers by observation was pretty good, but as I meditate on my methods in the light of Mr. Wellcome's contribution it seems to me that I have rarely selected layers. My custom has been to eliminate the weaklings and unthrifty, and indeed all that did not seem to be perfectly sound physically. What remained might vary in type; in shape; have color faults, defective combs, etc., etc., but they were healthy and hearty. As a rule they laid well, and for that reason, perhaps, the occasional poor layer was conspicuous. When it came to breeding I selected hens that suited me best in shape, color, etc., and always hens that were conspicuously fine physically—just as hens. The exceptions to this rule would be when I used in a special mating a hen that had some characteristic I wanted to experiment with. The hens in my breeding yards, selected on this principle from stock from which the culls had been carefully eliminated, were generally better layers than the average of the stock of their kind; but I cannot recall that I ever attempted to select a layer by any special characteristic of appearance or habit. I reserved for layers and selected for breeders hens in good physical condition—looking fit for anything in their line, and if either layer or breeder seemed to be going wrong in any way I went right after them to find out what was wrong.

In handling both layers and breeders I have always made it a rule to pen together hens and pullets of similar size, type, and habits. When this is done the lot can be treated as an individual. Occasionally an error may be made in grouping fowls this way, but it should be quickly discovered and corrected.

What I said about not selecting layers should be qualified. I don't know that I ever tried to pick out the hens that were constitutionally good layers, but I have repeatedly sorted out the hens for the purpose of putting those laying or about to lay by themselves, and disposing of others. Whether I made many mistakes in those disposed of I cannot say, but being generally disposed to give myself the benefit of doubts I made a few errors in regard to those I kept. Most poultrymen of any experience can pick out layers in this way with general accuracy. The indications of laying are quite as plain to them as milking indications in a cow.

When I "eliminate" a lot of culls, they go quite as much for lack of character or quality that appeals to and pleases me as for any positive and conspicuous faults. It really is simply a question of the point of view whether I separate the good from the poor or the poor from the good. But, if I undertake to supply that lack of specific information as to points for selection of layers by observation to which Mr. Wellcome refers, I am "up against" a difficult proposition. Suppose I say that I want a "well built" hen, of good size for her kind, with all her lines well filled out; that I want her to have an attractive (not necessarily stylish) carriage, a wide awake expression; that I want her feathers and the skin as seen on the head and legs and feet clean and healthy looking, her eye bright and clear. There is hardly a chance in twenty of a hen that suits me in those respects turning out a poor layer. She may not be a phenomenal layer, but she will hardly fail to be a pretty good one.

I have a theory which may be part wrong, that the hen that does not or cannot lay falls in some of the points noted above. If that is so my way of selecting hens for laying has this fault (?):—While I retain practically no poor layers, I probably discard some good layers. I was looking the other day at a picture of a hen that had laid some 250 eggs in a year. She was not at all an attractive hen, and her lack of attractiveness had been the subject of comment to the effect that you could not judge of laying quality by looks. Perhaps you cannot, always; but it has been my experience that the hen that looked like she was in full possession of all her power, rarely failed to be a good layer—judged by the product of the pens; *provided she got the care suited to her.*

In various places and especially in one of the Lessons on Poultry Keeping, I have tried to emphasize the importance of sorting over the flock at intervals for the purpose of keeping hens in like condition and of like habits and tendencies together. After the elimination of inferior looking hens and pullets, I have found this sort of selection with, of course, the discarding of hens that fail to respond to conditions that seem appropriate, generally resulting in good to extra good pen or flock averages.

Now, suppose, some one whose ideas of what constitutes merit



Houdan Cock.

Once in a while a cut gets separated from papers which identify it. Here is one that has been on the shelf over a year. Does anyone recognize it?

or quality in the several things I mentioned as influencing my selection, attempts to select my way, and on keeping record of eggs to verify his judgment, finds that some of those he selected for poor layers are extra good layers, and some of those he selected for good layers are very poor ones. Is it my method that is wrong, or his judgment and his application of it? Or, take the citation of Mr. Wellcome as to several parties who admit that they are not able to detect poor layers by observation, though with their hens a great deal of the time. Is such an admission an argument against selecting layers by observation, or a simple confession of incapacity and lack of judgment and skill in a matter in which they should be most useful to a poultryman?

Mr. W.'s observations on the roosting habits of hens are simply one way of repeating an old, old observation on the habits of layers. He emphasizes the hen that goes to roost early and stays there late, the non-layer or poor layer. It has been usual to put the emphasis on the active hustling hen—the one that is on the go early and late. It is also usual for poultry keepers of long or wide experience to suspect the sluggish hen of having something more the matter with her than mere incapacity to lay, and to take measures to find out what is wrong, and act accordingly.

Mr. Wellcome's statement that the 200-egg and 100-egg hen could not, or would not, generally be distinguished, strikes me as pure assumption—if he intends it to apply to hens under the daily observation of a keeper who was a fairly good observer. The fact that of two hens much alike in appearance and, we will say, handled just the same way, one lays 200 eggs in a year, and one only 100 eggs, does not prove anything of their laying capacity, except under the particular conditions which obtained. Had these conditions been changed, their performance might have been reversed, or under still other conditions they might perform alike. The trap nest record is

but a very small part of the data necessary to a correct conclusion about actual laying capacity. I have had hens that I finally decided were very deficient in laying capacity, but I never reached that conclusion about a hen that looked all right until I had exhausted every means I knew of to secure eggs from her, and such instances of poor laying by apparently sound hens of a stock that was producing good layers, I have found extremely rare. In my experience, stocks bred alike, and handled alike, have laid about alike after the culls have been weeded out, and the flock sorted if necessary according to size, habits, condition, etc.

In Mr. Wellcome's comment on the nesting habit he imputes to observation as a limitation on its use, an error not of good observers, but of people who observe little if at all. Not many wide awake poultrymen fail to discover that hens may visit the nest, yet not lay, and cackle when they have not laid. All these things were observed by many poultry people long ago, without the aid of trap nests.

Now as to the use of trap nests. Mr. Wellcome is anxious not to precipitate a discussion of them, because he does not like to discuss them with incompetent antagonists, and he has never yet had the pleasure of meeting a competent one. We will, therefore, keep away from a discussion of the subject. I will just say in passing that if Mr. W. will locate a man he would like to have discuss the subject of trap nests with him, show me where I can find a foe for him worthy of his steel, I will try to arrange matters so that each of them can have a page in some issue of this paper, and present the two ideas of the question simultaneously.

Pending that, I have just a little statement to make. Mr. Wellcome introduces an article on selecting laying hens by observation, with a quotation from "Poultry-Craft," which would make me appear to endorse or advise the use of trap nests for selecting layers. The quotation is taken from advice in regard to selecting breeders from which to produce laying stock, not from the advice in regard to the selection of laying stock. The use of trap nests was advised only for a special purpose with a limited number of hens previously selected for other characteristics, and then only for poultry keepers who had not the opportunity to learn by observation. Undoubtedly Mr. Wellcome did not intend to misrepresent my statement, but as his use of it might seem to many to make me advise trap nests under conditions in which I would not and do not advise using them, I think attention should be called to it, and that no one may be in doubt as to what I would advise, will quote what I said in "P.C." about "Selecting Laying Stock."

"Selection of laying stock for immediate egg production must take account of stock more strictly than to accept general character or possible development. In selecting laying hens of unknown individual merit \* \* \* the only reliable guide is the laying capacity of the particular stock from which the hens come. Usually this mode of selection gives good average results. To select individual good layers by appearance \* \* \* is impossible. \* \* \* If, as is nearly always the case, large eggs are desired, the hens selected should be, if of a small breed, large of their kind; if of a medium sized breed, medium to large; for it is a physical impossibility for a small hen to be a very prolific layer of large eggs; and, besides, the tendency to lay eggs large out of proportion to her size is objectionable in a hen, because rendering her peculiarly subject to trouble in extruding her eggs. Moreover, hens small of their kind are usually runts, stunted, ill developed. Medium to small hens of the large breeds lay eggs as large as need be, but hens that are much under size lack the staying qualities of better developed birds."

The great number of topics treated in "Poultry-Craft" made it impossible to go exhaustively into any one. Many things had to be suggested or briefly indicated, but I do not think anything will be found there on this subject inconsistent with the advice I give about selecting layers by observation. To do this we have:

- First.—General observation of the laying qualities of the stock, strain, or family.
- Second.—General observation of the hens kept each season, and the gradual elimination from the flock of non-layers and poor layers.

Between these two acts we have a close culling of the pullets raised, and the discarding before the laying season begins of all unpromising stock.



Brooder House at Plymouth Poultry Farm, York, Pa.

# Editorial Page of Farm-Poultry

## Just a Talk With Our Readers.

IT SEEMS to us that a few paragraphs of explanation and suggestion on a number of matters brought up in correspondence from readers of the paper are very much needed.

A great many readers write us making requests we cannot grant, asking information which for one reason or another we cannot give. We do not like to refuse to grant a request, or fail to give information without an explanation that makes our position and the reasons for it clear, yet often we have to do it because it is simply impossible to make the situation clear by a few words, and the few words are all we can possibly give.

It happens a good many times, too, that we cannot reply promptly even to all the letters that can be answered briefly, for correspondence by mail always has to yield to work on the paper, and sometimes it happens that the getting out of a paper demands all our attention for two weeks, and letters have to be laid on the table unread, or with a glance at their contents until the paper is off our hands and we can give a day or so to correspondence.

We have reason to suppose that subscribers generally appreciate the fact that getting out two papers like this every month keeps those who do the work fairly busy, and so are able and willing to make allowance for our inability to act. At the same time it will be more satisfactory all around if such things can be avoided.

From the nature of the case it happens that among the readers constantly being added to our list there are many who would like to have information on topics treated earlier in the year. Occasionally we can supply a back number containing what they want, but many of the numbers containing articles most in demand are now out of print. In this year's papers, however, the articles most wanted are the Poultry Lessons, and these we can supply now in leaflet form, and after January 1st will be able to supply all the lessons published in 1905 in book form.

The subjects treated in the lessons are:—

- Lesson I.—Winter Rations for Laying Stock.
- Lesson II.—The "Hows" and "Whys" of Feeding Laying Stock in Winter.
- Lesson III.—General Principles and Rules for Poultry Breeders.
- Lesson IV.—Putting Principles of Breeding into Practice.
- Lesson V.—Hatching Chicks With Hens.
- Lesson VI.—Rearing Chicks With Hens.
- Lesson VII.—The Care of Chicks from Weaning to Maturity.
- Lesson VIII.—Points to be Considered in Poultry House Construction.
- Lesson IX.—Two Plain Cheap Poultry Houses of Simple Construction.
- Lesson X.—Five Good Small Poultry Houses.
- Lesson XI.—Summer Management of Fowls.
- Lesson XII.—Continuous Poultry Houses.
- Lesson XIII.—Incubator Rooms and Brooder Houses.
- Lesson XIV.—Simple or So-called Scientific Poultry Feeding.
- Lesson XV.—Poultry House Fixtures.
- Lesson XVI.—Poultry Fences and Yards.
- Lesson XVII.—Getting Ready for Winter.
- Lesson XVIII.—Selecting and Fitting Exhibition Birds.
- Lesson XIX.—Fattening Fowls.

This brings us down to date:

- Lesson XX.—Selling Market Poultry and Eggs.
- Lesson XXI.—Selling Thoroughbred Poultry and Eggs.

This will complete the lessons for the year. There will be no lesson in the December 15th paper. We might, at a pinch, select another subject that would appropriately go into this series, but with the work planned for the year completed, and with the work of preparing the index for this volume of F-P, as well as the index for the volume of the lessons coming at that time, there does not seem to be occasion for it. The Lessons in book form will be issued early in December if no unforeseen delays occur, and in this book readers can get, as the list of subjects treated shows, information on a great many matters that are subjects of inquiry, and get it in more satisfactory shape and more complete than we can make it in replying through current numbers of the paper. Not every possible phase of the questions discussed is treated in these lessons; far from it. Each question presents itself differently to different people under different conditions. But general rules and principles are given, and enough applications illustrated to show how they work. There will still remain many opportunities to ask questions on these very matters, but if readers generally will use the lessons either in book form or as they have preserved them in the papers and leaflets issued through the year, they will get much of the information they are asking for, in better shape than we can give it in current issues, where replies and comments must for the most part be brief and limited to the particular points brought up.

Questions asked will be answered in the paper as usual, as far as possible as if there were no lessons; for we have no intention of making the lessons an excuse for not answering questions. In them we have taken topic by topic the things that poultry keepers most need to know, and treated each in an elementary yet thorough way. By issuing them in book form we put the back lessons within reach of every future subscriber, and offer them the advantage of this thorough, systematic series of articles on the points of most value to beginners.

Another point for readers to consider in asking questions is the ground to be covered in the lessons, this coming year. Having gone over the subject in an elementary way, we begin in the next series to discuss a little more advanced list of subjects. Thus in the treatment of breeding questions, this year we could take up only first principles. The questions of line breeding and inbreeding which belong to a more advanced stage of breeding experience will come up for discussion early in the year. Then there will be such matters as the physiology of fowls, especially with reference to the reproductive or "egg" organs of the hen, and various other topics in the same line. There will also be one or two general lessons on health and disease, and one lesson each on duck, goose, and turkey growing, taking up in these lessons a line of topics which might well have come in the first year's work, but could not be included in it, because the number of papers issued would not admit.

These topics will be treated as nearly as possible at the times when each will be of most use and interest to readers, and anticipating their use in the lessons, no extended articles or full information on any of them will be given by the writer beforehand, though of course special questions will be answered whenever possible. The full list of topics for the year cannot be given in advance, as we have to allow for occasions which may arise calling for special treatment of a subject not listed, and also for a full treatment of some topics requiring several lessons. From what has been said readers will see what line the lessons will follow this year, and will make our work easier and give us a better opportunity to make it more helpful to all, if they will limit questions to those requiring an immediate or early answer.

Now a word about stamps for reply. We cannot undertake to reply by mail to any letter that does not enclose a stamp. On the other hand the two cent stamp enclosed does not create an obligation on our part to give the writer a reply regardless of the nature of his request, or of the trouble (and trouble means expense) to us. So if readers will use their best judgment about the questions they ask we need not often be put in a position where we feel that the only use we can make of the stamp is to tell the inquirer we cannot give the information wanted.

## What Poultry Plants Want Visitors.

WE GET a great many requests for addresses of poultry plants, the writers of these requests desiring to visit a number of plants for the purpose of observing methods, etc. There are also a good many people calling at this office and asking to be directed to such plants.

A few months ago mention was made on this page of the great and very general change taking place in the poultry interests of this section, the once model New England poultry plant being more and more rarely found operating on the old lines, while the poultry interest on farms steadily increases, and many of the former intensive poultry keepers are resorting more to methods intermediate between the two general systems of handling fowls.

Where the change directly affects us most is in depriving us of the use of many plants for purposes of illustration. The poultry plants that will at all approach the popular idea of what a poultry plant should be, and are running on such a basis that we can send people to look at them without feeling in advance that they will be disappointed, are so few in the immediate vicinity of Boston, that it would be a serious imposition on their proprietors for us to send them one-fourth of the people who want to look at their plants. The writer has been all through the matter of displaying one's plant and stock to curious visitors, and knowing it from all sides often hesitates to send men and women to places where he knows every visitor will be cordially received and courteously treated, because he knows that the proprietor, though glad to do all he can for them, often finds visits a serious interference with his work, and is happiest on days no visitors come.

This is most true of those who are giving attention principally to the production of eggs and poultry. The fancier may feel that the time given visitors is not wholly lost inasmuch as they may be possible customers, but the plain commercial poultry keeper sees in visits only lost time and unremunerated opportunities to help his fellows.

In a nutshell the situation on the average poultry farm with regard to visitors is this: An occasional visitor, if he happens to come at a convenient time, is a pleasure; many visitors are a nuisance; and the visitor who comes at inconvenient times is a handicap.

Under the circumstances we don't feel at liberty to give names and addresses, not even in the way one gentleman suggested, in a long list from which he might select a few to visit.

Yet we are more than willing to do what we can to bring into communication the people who want visitors and those who want to visit poultry plants, and if poultrymen who are willing to extend a general invitation to the public to visit their plants will furnish us their names and a brief description of what sort of plant they have, and the lines along which they are working, we will have slips printed giving the list with information furnished us, and will give these slips to all inquirers for addresses of poultry plants. This seems to us the only way out of the difficulty.



## Confidence and Lack of Confidence.

ON THE roof of the rear of the Summer street wing of the South Terminal station, opposite this office, some one rigged a trap for pigeons a few months ago. The pigeons there were undoubtedly very much of a nuisance in some ways, and their numbers were steadily increasing.

The trap worked well for a little while; then the pigeons became wary and avoided it.

Near the main entrance of the same station at the noon hour almost any day the passer by may see pigeons of this same flock eating grain and peanuts from the hands of cabmen and sometimes of children. On Water street, near the post office, a cabman regularly feeds a flock of pigeons which have become very tame.

It has always seemed to us an unfortunate thing that the extension of interest in poultry should so generally result in the poultry keeper giving so little attention to individuals in the flock or to establishing the confidential relations with the flock which form no small part of the pleasure of keeping a small flock of poultry. One does not feel much like cultivating the acquaintance of a chicken which may turn out to be a cull he would not care to retain, and a personal interest might make him reluctant to dispose of. So he reserves his attention for the specimens that will do him credit, and when these are identified he tries to make them docile enough to submit to handling and to be free from timidity under any circumstances. The success of his efforts is apt to be much less than if confidential relations had been established early in the bird's life and maintained right along. Occasionally we find a fancier whose fowls are all very tame and docile, and attract attention on that account, while their tractableness adds much to their appearance when on display; but the poultryman whose days are crowded with work for his poultry finds little time to encourage the fowls that would be familiar, and often the haste he has to use in going among them keeps them rather shy of him.



## That Dark Brahma Female, etc.

EDITOR HEWES, of the *Inlan Poultry Journal*, thinks that inasmuch as in the Standard illustrations the sexes were drawn separately, it is surprising that there were not more errors like that of making the Dark Brahma female larger than the male. We can't see it that way. Seems to us that would be the first point to consider in making reductions from the artist's drawings.

Mr. Hewes suggests an ingenious way of getting around the discrepancy in appearance. Says he: "If the female looks unusually large to anyone he has only to cover the male and the female will be reduced to normal size."

This reminds us of a little anecdote that used to go the rounds of the almanacs. An old gentleman presents his nephew with a watch which he had himself carried through its best days. "Take her, my boy," said he in making the presentation, "set her back half an hour every morning and a quarter of an hour every afternoon, and she's a watch that will do you credit."

The young man of course would remember that instruction as long as he carried the watch. In the case of the Dark Brahma female how is the novice to know what to do? Is there not danger of many supposing that the hen should be larger than the male? Begins to look as if a guide book to the Standard would have to be issued, for there are other things left to the understanding.

Then editor Heck, of *Successful Poultry Journal*, points out that the new Standard says that solid colored varieties are to be handicapped when competing with parti-colored, which is just the opposite of what it should say. Neither does this seem serious to Mr. Hewes. "The error," he says: "is so palpable that it will not often be misconstrued, and can with other similar mistakes, be corrected with errata, as has been done in former editions."

We opine that the list of errata will within a year be so formidable that it would not look well sent out with a book. About half of the first edition has already been sold. In anticipation of the need of a second edition being required in about two years, editor Curtis of the *Reliable Poultry Journal*, offers prizes for the most valuable lists of corrections submitted within a specified time, with the idea of locating all errors and omissions, and making the second edition practically free from them. This is admirable, in its way, but if the errors are

all to be corrected, are not buyers of the present edition entitled to the corrections in the text in more convenient form than on a separate sheet, as so many points to be kept in mind that one may make no mistakes when following the text of the book?

It is also pertinent to remark that if it is once generally understood that a different or revised edition of the Standard is to be issued within a comparatively short time, orders will be held back and perhaps a year longer will be required to work off the first edition. Verily this way of Standard making has most serious drawbacks for the makers as well as disadvantages for the public. Would it not be better to let this last Standard go as it is, errors and ail until this edition was exhausted? By that time the A. P. A. should be square financially. Then would it not be a gracious as well as a sensible thing for the A. P. A., instead of trying to perfect more than a hundred Standards, to make one model Standard and say to the breeders of the different breeds and varieties: "Instead of owning Standards we will hereafter merely authorize, endorse, or approve them. Take the Standard for your breed or variety and make it complete in form according to this model, and consistent with its general features. We will then examine or approve it, or recommend changes necessary to make it harmonize with provisions of other Standards on the same points, and give an approval conditional on those changes. Having done this our direct interest ceases. You as breeders may sell them separately, give them away, or whatever you choose. Whenever you wish to revise you can do so, and we will approve, provided no general principle is violated, and no description made inconsistent with existing authorized descriptions of the same sections or points in other varieties, — such changes to be made only when it is plainly demanded by a majority of those interested. Aside from these restrictions the description of a breed is to be entirely in the hands of its breeders and the authorized Standards absolutely at their disposal."

The A. P. A. would still be the guardian of the Standards, while Standards authorized by the A. P. A. would be distributed broadcast there would not be so many standardless breeders, and thoroughbred poultry interests would be given a greater impulse than anything can give them while the distribution of Standards is restricted and limited as now.



### A Privileged Character.

NOW some people are asking how it happened that in the face of the express prohibition of the reproduction of any of the illustrations in the Standard, the *Reliable Poultry Journal* "takes the liberty of reproducing herewith" an entire page of illustrations. Why ask the question? If the editor of the *R. P. J.* is not a privileged character in such matters he ought to be, and after all the object of the reproduction is to advertise the book and increase its sales, and the A. P. A. must be lenient with those who disregard its injunctions for its own good.



### Progressing Toward a Working League of New England Poultry Associations.

A PERSONAL note from Mr. Geo. V. Smith, chairman of the provisional organization of the League of New England Poultry Associations, informs us that seven associations promptly ratified the constitution. Others will undoubtedly do so at the first opportunity. The unfortunate delay in bringing the matter before the associations last spring left action on it in many cases to be taken at fall and winter meetings. The League is to be formed if nine associations ratify. That there will be a sufficient number there is practically no doubt, and the prospect is that a number more than necessary will enter the league.

There should be no New England association outside of it. All should join and work together for the common good. Associations should understand that the work of the League is yet to be laid out, as well as to be done, and every association ought to be represented in the meeting next January, which without doubt will determine the lines of cooperation in the immediate future. All associations should be represented, all interests and ideas considered, and the policies and plans evolved should represent the consensus of opinion in and have the united support of the local poultry associations throughout New England.

What has been done so far is simply to draw up a constitution as a basis for future work, to provide by resolution for the appointment of a committee to present a plan for the better regulation of shows, and appoint a committee to arrange for a banquet and social gathering to follow the consummation of the organization next January.

Among the things suggested as within the province of the League are:

Arrangements of show dates to prevent conflicts injurious to shows concerned, and to fancy interests generally.

Common ownership of exhibition coops.

Adoption of uniform rules to do away with some of the objectionable practices which obtain in connection with shows.

Arranging circuits of shows and judging engagements, to reduce the cost to shows without diminishing the receipts of the judge.

The transportation companies are the only ones to profit by the present method of each show making engagements with its judges without reference to other shows, except as dates may have to be changed to accommodate a judge.

Systematic arrangement of dates and cooperation in various matters might also be expected to create conditions which would make it practicable for many shows to secure the services of expert superintendents and managers, and so have the show handled well without imposing its management upon officers who give it time they cannot afford to give, and when they, for any reason, positively cannot give the show their attention, it has to be discontinued. As every secretary and executive committee has learned, experience counts in show management, and if our show interests by cooperation can secure good expert superintendents for many shows which cannot now afford them, we may expect more shows, and better and more profitable shows.

It is suggested also that the annual meetings of the League will be of interest and advantage because of the exceptional opportunity they will afford for members of the different associations to get together and compare ideas and experiences.

From the fact that with few exceptions the local associations are organized primarily to hold local poultry shows, it follows that matters pertaining to the improvement of shows would naturally be the first taken up, but the organization contemplates action on all matters in which members need to cooperate, taking each as it arises.

The object as stated in the constitution is:—

"To promote good fellowship among the poultrymen of New England, and to serve the interests of the poultry associations in any way in which they may be helped by cooperative efforts."

Upon that statement of the objects of the League representatives of the local associations of this section may unite and agree to do much or little as to them seems best. And upon that basis every association should come in and have a voice and vote in fixing the full status of the League.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you — please them — and help us.

### Fowls in Confinement.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:— You say on page 457, November 1st, that fowls cannot be grown in close quarters. This is the third year that I have grown Partridge Wyandottes in a yard about 20 x 30 feet, and among sixty-nine raised there this year, I have several cockerels that weigh seven pounds at seven months, and pullets over six pounds. One year, out of fifty-four I put ten in the show and did not get a score below 90, and one pullet was three pounds over standard weight, or 8½ lbs.

I formerly thought that Leghorns would do better in confinement, that the larger breeds, on account of their being always active, would scratch and get exercise anyway, but I am convinced now that any fowl can be kept in close quarters as well as pigs if given all they need. They must have a variety of food, and green food is important from the start. This I supply to young chicks by cutting grass very short with a machine which I made for the purpose.

As for space in winter, I will say that I wintered 28 of these pullets in a house 8 x 12 feet and scratching shed 3 x 12, and seldom got less than 20 eggs a day, and got 25 two days in succession. Have successfully kept 16 Leghorns in a house 6 x 8, with shed 4 x 12; but I want to impress on all would-be imitators that they must be cared for in such places.

O. H. L.

The case in connection with which I made the statement to which Mr. L. refers, was one where a man wanted to keep fowls, not merely in a small yard, but in the house most of the time. It is not an absolute impossibility to grow chickens indoors, but attempts to do so are generally unsuccessful or unprofitable, and practically it is correct to say that they could not be grown in such close confinement.

It is also true that to grow chickens in yards, as Mr. L. does, rarely pays when labor and time are considered, and that almost always a few years of fair success under such conditions are followed by troubles that wipe out most of the profits.

### Chickens and Potato Bugs.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:— In your valuable paper of current date I see you answer an inquiry of C. E. D., as to danger of chickens being poisoned by paris green on potato vines. Now my experience this year would indicate that no paris green would be needed; the chickens will take care of the bugs. My young stock had the run of my potato patch. Plants showed many eggs of bugs, so I used "bug death" once. Failed to see any slugs, and after watching, decided that the chickens were eating the bugs. I had no bugs all summer, though neighbors were bothered with them. The chickens did not eat the full grown bugs that came early in the season, nor did they eat the potato leaves to any extent, but I often saw them pick off a tiny slug.

H.

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House and barn burned to the ground last week; must close out my stock of

## SNOWITE (Duston) WHITE WYANDOTTES

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## TWO SPECIAL CLASS STUDENTS. Orchard Hill Poultry Farm

### Large Flocks—Fattening—Is He Well Equipped?

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—Nothing seems to have required a special letter to you since my last. My "knowledge" of the poultry business is in advance of my "experience."

There are a few points now that I would like to consult you about.

I am preparing to winter 100 pullets—75 Rocks and 25 Leghorns in one flock, and 100 yearling Rocks in another flock. Last fall I had my fowls in flocks of 25 each, but the extra labor of caring for them leads me to believe that I can obtain better results with the larger flocks, taking account of my somewhat feeble health.

My pullets have been shut up in the house two weeks, as they escape from the yard when let out. The hens appear to be in good condition, and are practically through the molt, laying 25 to 30 eggs per day. I let them out on warm days, as they return to the house of their own accord.

I expect to winter 3 drakes and 12 ducks, in the basement of the barn, and possibly a few hens with them.

Have had poor luck fattening cockerels. After two or three weeks had to give them free range again. The chicks that I did not shut up were fat, and those I tried to fatten got poor. The same was true last season. The ducks I fattened got fat, but no better than those with their liberty. My fattening pen was slightly infested with red mites, and I fattened ducks and chicks together. That is the only solution I could suggest.

My idea is to winter 10 or 12 Rock cockerels and pick 100 good hens to put with them for breeding purposes as "utility" stock. I can

sell many eggs to neighboring farmers at 50c. per dozen. I also want to select a few choice specimens for "fancy," and perhaps purchase a rooster and two or three pullets.

My hen house has been excavated to a depth of five or six inches, and new dirt drawn in, and a ditch 18 inches deep dug all around. I have plenty of leaves for litter, and poor hay; cabbage and mangels for greens, and can supply green bone most of the time.

Do you think I am equipped properly for the winter campaign? G. M. C.

Mr. C. is very well equipped for the winter campaign, but not using his equipment to best advantage. In October he had his fowls in winter quarters—which is all right; and was managing them by winter methods—which is not right.

The pullets should have at least the liberty of a fair sized yard as long as the snow will allow them to be outdoors. There is rarely any weather before the latter part of November that makes it necessary to confine fowls to the houses.

Whether Mr. C. will do better with his hens in large than in small flocks, or do as well, remains to be seen. Most people do best with small flocks.

His fattening experiences have a lesson which he seems to have learned. Chickens shut up with red mites do not have as good conditions for fattening as those at liberty without them. Fattening ducks and chickens together does not work well unless the numbers of both are small. Even then results are not always what we want.

### Wyandotte Type—Fighting Mites—Grading Up a Flock.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—Should I keep charcoal before my hens as I do shells, grit, etc.? I have read somewhere that charcoal will quietly absorb obnoxious fumes in the air, and become impure for poultry. Is this so, and if so how should charcoal be furnished poultry?

My White Wyandotte pullets are medium to short legged. At our local fair the pullets were longer legged than mine. Is each type correct, and is either preferable?

I had a pullet which twisted its neck and head upward so that it could scarcely find the food dish. As it grew worse it floundered about on the floor; was this limber neck? Not knowing what to do I killed it. Is it contagious if fowl is left with flock?

One of the houses that I must use has become fairly alive with mites, and though no poultry has been in it for several weeks they still swarm. With a brush I fairly soaked the walls with kerosene, but seemingly to no purpose, as the mites still swarmed from the cracks and knot holes. It may be that many were killed and that reinforcements took their places. Will kerosene do the work if I persist, or would something else be better? My endurance is good, and I can persist indefinitely, but do not want to waste my labor. I can not get many insecticides here. I can get Lee's lice killer of a neighbor, if that would be better. The chloro-naphtholeum which you recommend, I cannot get here. I might use carbolic acid. If so what per cent solution should I get? So much is written about disposing of lice and mites that it seems superfluous to inquire. But the very multiplicity of remedies confuses one. You say that by using insecticides you have been able to renovate a house alive with mites. From your experience would you be willing to recommend a method of procedure for me?

I have twice seen the method approved or recommended of grading up a flock of hens by purchasing a good thoroughbred cockerel and breeding him to your ordinary hens the first

year, the next year breeding the same bird to his daughters, the third year buying a new bird, the fourth breeding him to his daughters, and so on. This plan is spoken of by Mr. Warren in his "Two Hundred Eggs a Year," and by Miller Purvis in an article which I found in *Farm-Garden and Poultry*, but copied from *Western Farmer and Dairyman*. This plan saves buying a new male every year. I have always feared that such close relationship in breeding birds would endanger the hatching possibilities. Do you think this a good plan, or would you prefer a new bird every year if one could afford it? M. A. D.

I don't think charcoal in such a place as the ordinary poultry house would be perceptibly affected by any gases it might absorb.

The White Wyandotte should be short legged, but what is "short?" We have to have some common standard to go by in discussing such a point. If Miss D. and I had both seen a certain White Wyandotte, or stock of White Wyandottes, and she should say her hens had the same length of leg, the other hens greater, I would have some idea of what they looked like, but short means different things to different people, and *long*, *medium*, and *short* are relative to the size of the fowl as well as to other fowls. Hence the only way to arrive at right conclusions in matters of this kind is by comparing stock and opinions with others, and especially getting opinions of good judges of a variety. That is one of the reasons why every novice interested in breeding thoroughbred stock should show stock if possible.

The pullet which twisted its neck had vertigo, probably. This trouble is not contagious, but cases might happen together in a flock where conditions favored it.

The house in which so much trouble is experienced in getting rid of lice may be so constructed, or in such condition, that applications for the mites cannot follow them into

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their hiding places. If that is so, the best way to deal with them is to arrange roosts that the mites cannot get on, using oil cup brackets or some similar contrivance, and still keep after the mites wherever they show themselves. In such a case I think I would use whitewash on them.

The subject of inbreeding will be taken up in one of the lessons next year, probably in January. In general, I would not advise grading up a flock of mongrel or poor hens. A good male might be used with them once or twice while one was getting started in thoroughbreds, but it takes too long to grade up. Better start with a little good stock, and in a few years you can have all thoroughbreds.

#### Points on Sunflowers.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—In regard to sunflowers, I will say that I find the black seeded variety less liable to blight—less seeds without meat in them than the light colored ones. I noticed it last year, and it was the same the present season. I have seeds from a head just twelve inches across inside of the husk, that are so plump they are almost round, and there were a dozen or more small heads on the same stalk. I have never tried taking off the small branches, and always find a good head at the top, even if there are thirty small ones. I had thirty-two on one stalk this year, and the main head was over eight inches across.

The worst trouble with the business with me is the work of the larva of a fly known to entomologists as long-pennis, which lays its eggs on the young stalks, and the maggots work in the pith of the stalk, sometimes going into the head and working at the base of the seeds. In some cases the stalks are weakened so they fall over. Toward fall they come out and go into the ground among the roots of the plant, where they may be found, about the size of a grain of wheat and bright yellow in color. I dig up the stumps and let the chickens pick up the insects, of which they are very fond. The parent fly is about as long as a house fly, but slim in body and yellow in color. O. H. LEAVITT.

Manchester, N. H.

I had observed in our sunflowers this year some of the features Mr. L. mentions. The white seeds generally are poor, practically worthless. The black seeded heads have better filled seeds, but considering even the best of them, and we have some big ones, I am inclined to think that there would have been more good feed grown had we had a hill of corn wherever we had a sunflower. And when you stop to think of it, if sunflowers really are so valuable to grow for poultry, it would seem that they would by this time be more generally grown. Certainly they have been advertised well.

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## The Editor's Question Box.

In this department the editor will answer miscellaneous questions on poultry topics, and all special requests for his personal views which can be answered briefly. Inquiries will be answered as promptly as possible and as nearly as may be in the order in which they are received.

**Coal Tar for Red Rope Roofing.** (F. J. W.)—"The manufacturers of Red Rope Neponset roofing say to give the roof a coat of paint as soon as laid. Would coal tar be a good thing to coat it with? Would it be cheaper than a paint of white lead and linseed oil?"

Coal tar would not do for red rope roofing. It can be used over tarred felt or tarred paper, and I presume might be used over some of the heaviest building papers, though I think for most of these the manufacturers would advise a regular paint.

**Where Can He Get Plan for a Home-made Brooder?** (R. C. W.)—"Can you tell me where I can get a plan for a home-made brooder to accommodate 500 chicks?"

The best thing to do in a case like this is to get plans from one of the incubator companies which supply sectional brooders or individual brooder fittings to be used in brooders made at home. If Mr. W. will look through our advertising columns I think he will find references in advertisements which will put him on the track of information he wants.

**A Question of Quality.** (E. P. T.)—"I enclose two samples of beef scrap, also sample of wheat, which I would like your opinion on. I have not marked the samples of scrap with the brand, believing you would rather not know the make. Do you think the \$2.50 scrap is as good as the \$2.75? The difference in price is not much, but every little counts up at the end of the year.

"Wheat like that in sample I can buy (or could a month ago) for \$1.60 per 100 lbs., or \$1.45 in half-ton lots. I can buy the best white milling wheat for \$1.85 per 100 lbs. in single bag lots. Which grade do you think would be most economical to use?"

To avoid possible bias in favor of the higher priced article, I gave the two envelopes containing beef scrap to the stenographer and told her to mark one envelope No. 1, the other No. 2, and put the contents respectively on two sheets of paper I had marked to correspond. It only took a glance to determine that the scrap on the paper marked 1 was the better article. Referring to the envelopes, I found that this was the lower priced of the two—the \$2.50 per 100 scrap.

The condition of the two samples, however, was not the same; the \$2.50 article was fresh, the other stale. It may have been as good as the other when fresh, but that it was ever better, I doubt.

The sample of wheat sent contains just about enough worthless grains to make it appear probable that in feeding little difference would be found in cost between this at \$1.60 and the best wheat at \$1.85. If this can be bought in half-ton or ton lots at \$1.45 I think it would be the more economical article, unless the better grade can be bought in such lots at a corresponding reduction.

**Were They Fresh Eggs?** (D. C.)—"In a small box I send you two yolks of what I had sent me for strictly fresh eggs. I think they had been in some solution for preserving them, as the whites were as sour as vinegar."

The eggs were certainly not fresh. The yolks look like they had been cooked. What they were I don't know, but Mr. C., who is a dealer in eggs, is under no obligation to accept such eggs as fresh.

**Shall He Use Beef Scrap or Cut Bone?** (L. C. A.)—"Beef scraps cost me 3 cents a pound. Shall I buy beef scrap or a green bone cutter? Green bone will cost me hardly anything."

In such a case if one has opportunity to get, and time to cut bone, I would say, buy a bone cutter. If I could have green cut bone as convenient always to use as I can have beef scrap, I imagine my fowls would never taste scrap. But as I am situated it is not convenient to get bone, and the preparation of it could not always be given attention at the right time. It becomes really more a ques-

tion of the circumstances and convenience of the poultryman than of values.

**Gray Feathers in Black Minorcas.** (S. A. H.)—"I breed R. C. B. Minorcas. I feed chicks on wheat, ground oats, bran, cracked corn, beef scraps, and sour milk. They have grown fine, cockerel five months old weighs 6½ lbs., and is quite thin in flesh. Two of my cockerels are just starting in one grayish feather in each wing. Now what I want to know is, is there any way to account for those gray feathers? Of course it must be lack of color pigment in feathers, but as they have done so well on the feed that I give them, it seems so the feed must be O. K. Do you think they will turn black? Do you think they will molt out O. K. as old birds next fall?"

Gray or white in the plumage is a common fault in fowls of quite all colors—others as well as black, and is oftenest found in the largest feathers of the wings and tail. In fowls which have white in surface color it is customary to look at such color failing in flights and main tail feathers as a fault in the distribution of the colors, and not invariably due to lack of coloring pigment. So while perhaps the question is too abstruse for profitable discussion here, I think we may assume that gray or white in flights might exist without general weakness in color, especially as many of the finest colored black fowls will show white or gray patches in the wings. Heredity unquestionably has a good deal to do with its presence. Lack of nourishment would affect the plumage throughout. A bird poorly nourished might have more white or gray than it would if well nourished. It would also show the lack of nourishment all through the plumage in color, texture, and condition of the feathers.

Sometimes feathers with a little white or other undesirable color in them will grow out of the desired color if removed. What may result in any particular case you cannot know until you try. It probably depends much on the cause. If lack of nourishment gives weak color in one or two points in an otherwise strong colored fowl, removing the feathers and letting others replace them might under favorable conditions be expected to remedy the defect. To secure most favorable conditions for the experiment it would be well to leave the feathers alone until the birds are well feathered, and then pluck those showing white. With the other plumage grown nature can put all her force into these few new feathers, and give perfect ones when perhaps with feathers all over the fowl still growing, the important feathers removed might grow in again with the fault as bad or worse than before. Experiences in this line vary. What may be the outcome at the regular molt is also problematical. Usually color weaknesses are intensified with each succeeding molt, but they are sometimes eliminated.

**Creepers.** (G. I. H.)—"About forty years ago I was a youth living on a farm in Rhode Island with my parents. One day my older brother brought home a pair of very short legged hens which he called Creepers. I have no special recollection about their plumage, but we regarded them as something quite different from the rest of our hens. Were they a distinct breed? Have you known of such, and do you know if I can procure any today?"

Short legged fowls of the Creeper type were much more common in those days than now. I have seen specimens of almost all colors, but cannot recall ever seeing a pen, or even a pair, similar in color. Most old poultry books describe a variety known as "Creepers," and I think I recall an occasional mention of them as still bred distinctly in some parts of England and Scotland. The fowls known as Scotch Grays, I believe, were of the Creeper type, and the Bolton Grays, similar or an

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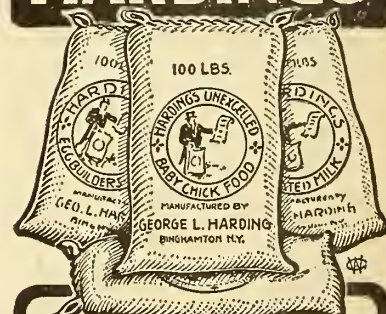
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approach to it. Whether of regular breeding, or, as I suspect, at least sometimes, results of bantam crosses, the Creeper type hens I have known have almost invariably been good layers, long lived layers, and very quiet and docile—a type admirably adapted to close confinement.

**A Case of Roup.** (E. D.)—"Pardon me for writing you this letter, but I need advice quickly. My flock of over 100 nice pullets are threatened with a disease I do not understand. Am a subscriber to F.-P., and have F.-P. Doctor book, but cannot find this trouble treated in them. About six weeks ago I had a Leghorn hen that began to have sore eyes. After two or three weeks both eyes became closed with matter, and there seemed to be a tumor as large as a pea between one eye and the nose, and there may have been smaller ones. She could not see to eat very well, and was so light I killed her. About a week ago two pullets began to have drippings from each of their right eyes. The affected eye seems to be filled in one corner with a watery fluid that looks full of small bubbles when in the eye, but when removed seems thick like the white of an egg. There is also a slight swelling and redness around the eye. I think it is some eye trouble, and not roup, as they have no difficulty in breathing.

If you can tell me what this trouble is and the remedy it will be conferring a great favor on us, as we have a fine lot of young hens and pullets, and do not wish any disease to get a foothold. Have never had a case of roup on the farm that I know of. My pullets have the run of the farm, and a new house to sleep in."

This is one of the cases where a poultry keeper loses valuable time by not making use of information at hand. He had Farm-Poultry Doctor, presumably consulted it. The information he needed is given under the topic, "Roup;" the symptoms he describes are mentioned there. He says he concluded it was not roup, because the fowls had no difficulty in breathing. Had he read the book with even ordinary attention I don't see how he could overlook this plain statement:—"At first the discharge is thin, and breathing is not interfered with, but as the disease progresses, respiration becomes more difficult." I fear that Mr. D., like many others, gave a too hasty glance at the book, and then concluded the "longest way round was the shortest way home," and decided to write to me. In his case the symptoms are so plain that it takes but a moment to dictate a letter referring him to what he overlooked in the book. It is one of the letters that gives me almost no trouble. But look at the delay to him! His letter was written on the 3d of the month, Friday, reached Boston Sunday; I got it Monday. My reply may reach him Tuesday, possibly not until Wednesday. Four or five days lost in treatment of roup, and all for want of care in reading a book bought for just such emergencies.

Any one of the simple treatments recommended in "F.-P. Doctor" might have been given promptly, proper measures taken to discover and correct wrong conditions, if such exist, and the disease might be well under control in less time than it would take to get a reply from me; unless while waiting he has again referred to the book and found out his mistake, it may be that by that time half the flock will be affected. He will be fortunate if the disease makes little progress while he is waiting to find out what to do.

For cases like these take carbolic acid 1 part to about 50 parts hot water, steaming hot, and steam and bathe the head of the fowl with it. Keep in a dry comfortable place, and all symptoms of trouble should disappear in a few days. When the face and head are slightly swollen but no discharge to speak of, rub with vaseline. It does no harm to combine these treatments.

**Probably Enteritis.** (J. P.)—"During the last year I have lost 25 hens from bowel trouble out of a flock of 240. One that died a couple of days ago was a type. She got dumpish; comb became discolored; after a couple of days refused to eat. I caught her in the morning; her crop was partly full of grains that had been there at least since the day before; and on the feathers about the vent there was a thickish excrement the color of sulphur. I took off her head. I have had them dump around like this for over two

weeks. Is it cholera? In the morning I feed a mash of meal, bran, middlings and beef scrap; at night, whole grain—oats and buckwheat; free range."

On the brief description of the disease given I would call it enteritis, a disease which develops from a catarrhal condition of the stomach and intestines, or sometimes from bacteria or fungi. The cause of the inflammation and catarrhal condition of these organs may be a cold, or it may be improper feeding, impure food or water, over-stimulating food, poison: anything that would irritate them. The remedy begins with the removal of the cause. Salmon recommends milk to drink, light rations, a tablespoonful of olive oil as a laxative. This to be followed by one-half to one grain of bicarbonate of soda, and two grains of subnitrate of bismuth in a little water three times a day.

**When to Mate.** (D. T. B.)—"How long before eggs are used for hatching should hens be mated to insure the eggs to be fertile, or to insure them to be fertilized by a certain cock in case hens had been running with another cock?"

From hens not previously mated fertile eggs have been scarce within two days of the introduction of a male. Only a small proportion of the eggs of a flock would be fertile as soon as that. The fertility should increase until within a week to ten days the grade of fertility the pen would reach at any season would be attained. There is however no such thing as insuring fertility. We never can be sure that any method or any conditions we may make will give fertility or as good fertility as we want.

When a change of males is made in a mating all chicks hatched from eggs laid ten days after the new male was introduced would probably be his chicks. Two weeks is regarded as the safe period.

**Land Plaster.** (C. A. K.)—"What is plaster?"

Calcined gypsum, calcium sulphate.

**New York Market.** (C. A. K.)—"How can I get in touch with the market poultry trade in New York city and vicinity? Can you give me the name of a good market paper to subscribe for?"

The *New York Produce Review* is I believe the leading market paper. As Mr. K. lives in Brooklyn it seems to me the best way to get in touch with the trade is to go direct to the markets and make acquaintances among those in the lines in which he is interested.

**Sauer Kraut for Hens.** (S. S. S.)—"I wish to know about sauer kraut for winter poultry feeding. I have a quantity of good cabbage, but find difficulty in keeping it through winter. You may be able to help me out along this line; that is, keeping cabbage over winter. If I could make it into sauer kraut and feed it to poultry with good results I would prefer to do so."

I don't know why sauer kraut would not be satisfactory for poultry food, but have never heard of anyone using it extensively. I have kept cabbage the last two years in a barn cellar in which it froze and remained frozen all winter. The cabbage that was left in the spring began to spoil as soon as it thawed out, but the most of it was fed before it was past using. This winter the barn cellar is remodeled, and I don't expect it to freeze, but do not anticipate any trouble in keeping it cool enough for cabbage and celery. Cabbage is here generally put in pits for the winter, and these opened and a quantity taken out as needed.

**Vertigo.** (C. A. D.)—"One morning when I fed my chickens I noticed a full-grown White Wyandotte pullet with her neck twisted; at times it would twist so badly that her head would be nearly bottom side up. She could not walk, but flutter and run back. If I held her head in the right position she could eat and looked bright, but as soon as I let go her head it would twist over. I kept her several days, and tried to doctor her, but she did not seem to improve any, and finally I killed her.

"Can you tell me the cause and remedy for this trouble?"

This was probably a case of vertigo. For such attacks give two tea-spoonfuls of castor oil and feed a light diet containing little fat-

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**Cockerels Have Weak Legs.** (O. E. C.)—"I have two young thoroughbred cockerels, one a Black Minorca, and the other a White Wyandotte which are in perfect health excepting weak legs. Why they have this we do not know. A Rhode Island Red we had got over it, but it seems to hang on to these two."

I cannot well advise in such a case as this without knowing the conditions under which the fowls are kept and how they are fed and cared for.

**Whole or Cracked Corn.** (C. A. K.)—"Why is it in all make up of foods, chickens are fed cracked corn instead of whole corn? I always fed mine whole corn, and had no bad effects from it, and with me always preferred it, and would not eat cracked corn when they got whole."

Is corn oil cake, the by-products of glucoses good for fowl?"

The objection to feeding whole corn is that it is so large that fowls find it without effort and eat a full meal quickly without exercise. The conditions under which the fowls are kept make a difference in the results of feeding, but most poultry keepers have found it best to feed corn cracked, for the reason indicated above. I have never used or had reports on use of corn oil cake.

### Cost of Raising Chicks.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:—I have just been calculating the cost of raising chickens this year. My chickens were hatched May 1st. I have raised 95 out of the 100. As near as I can figure, they have cost me up to date, in cash for food, less than 36 cents each. Besides the food for which I paid, they had a run of one-fifth of an acre, one-fifth of which was planted in sweet corn. They had almost all the corn—because of dry weather it did not grow well—and disposed of more than one-half the corn stalks. The chickens are first rate.

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# First Lessons in Poultry Keeping.

## LESSON XX.

### Selling Market Poultry and Eggs.

TO DISPOSE of the products of the poultry yard to best advantage often calls for as much knowledge, skill, and judgment as their production. This is a fact that too many "producers" fail to grasp. In common with the mass of producers in all agricultural lines, poultry keepers, especially those located a long way from the best markets, are apt to regard the middlemen and the transportation companies as predatory individuals and concerns levying tribute on goods as they pass from producer to consumer. Much is said of "the middleman's profits." It is assumed that they are large and sure, and the poultry keeper is prone to feel that if in any way he can retain the part of the final selling price of his products which represents the difference between what he gets and what the consumer gives, his business will be much more profitable.

In general there is more error than truth in this view of the case as it applies to the person giving all or much of his time to poultry keeping; and I am not sure that the statement will not apply to all classes of poultry keepers who sell eggs and poultry for table use. Even those located close to good markets often find it unprofitable to try to dispose of their produce direct to consumers. There are, of course, a great many instances where it pays better to sell direct, but still I think the number of cases in which it pays better to sell goods through the regular channels of trade is very much greater. Both from my own experience and from what I have seen, I am so convinced of this that I think one should make all his plans and estimates on that basis unless he is absolutely sure of a direct market under unusually favorable conditions.

Ordinarily the producer who sells direct to consumers, thereby keeping for himself the various amounts which usually go to commission and wholesale dealers, retailers, and transportation companies, does the work of all these himself; and often it costs him more to do it than the difference in the wholesale and retail prices.

He does not always realize this. With his mind intent on "the middleman's profit," it may not occur to him to figure out just what it costs him to sell his produce direct, and how much more he could probably produce by giving all his time to production.

### When It Is Advisable to Sell Direct.

If the quantities to be sold are small and can be conveniently delivered without taking time which might more profitably be given to something else; or

If the poultry products can be sold from house to house with other stuff, as milk or vegetables;

If the quantities to be sold are large enough to make daily deliveries;

It may be more profitable to sell direct, though there are very few places where it is possible to make a large route for poultry and eggs alone profitable enough to warrant giving it the time of a man and team. There are many poultry keepers who, while keeping a few fowls, or a stock not large enough to require all their time, find it good policy to sell direct to consumers, but as the amount they produce increases, the relative conditions change. Where at first they put time in the selling of goods that otherwise would have been unoccupied, as their business increases the time given to preparing and delivering for private families is time that could be used to better advantage right in the poultry yard.

It should be said, also, that the personality of the poultryman is of some importance in deciding such a question as this. Qualifications as a salesman count for as much in disposing of products as other qualifications do in producing them. As some people can produce chickens and eggs cheaper than others, get better results for the same investment or work; so some can sell better than others—can work goods off quicker, and often get better prices as well. Like several other matters we have considered during the year, the question of the best way to dispose of produce finally resolves itself into a question of what a certain individual can do under certain conditions, and the general advice I have given is what fits the case for most individuals in the greatest number of conditions.

Taking up now the special consideration of the different methods of selling poultry products.

### Selling Eggs and Poultry to Private Customers.

This means, as a rule, the delivery once or twice a week of an approximately uniform quantity of eggs during the greater part of the year. Most families economize on eggs for a few months when prices are highest; indulge in them more freely when prices are lowest, but during the greater part of the year use the same number of dozens per week. The total number of regular customers a poultryman can take, can never be much greater than the number he can supply when eggs are scarce.

A few families will use poultry once or twice a week, and a few such customers can take the poultry product from quite a large plant if hatches happen to be so distributed through the season that there is something to dress every week. The average family buys poultry about once in two or three weeks, and while such orders help out, unless a route has a goodly proportion of customers buying poultry once a week or oftener, it does not pay to supply it with poultry,—speaking now of a poultry and egg route. If other produce is sold the case may be different.

### Selling to Large Consumers of Eggs and Poultry.

Some private families trade would come under this heading, but under it I refer more particularly to hotel, boarding house, restaurant, and soda fountain trade. Opportunities to sell at a premium to this class of trade are not generally as good as they were before the days of modern cold storage methods. The more careful candling and grading of eggs by commission houses has also had its influence on the situation. These and the fact that many such consumers have arrangements with some poultryman for supplies of eggs, make it sometimes hard to find customers of this class. Another thing that works against the poultryman looking for this class of trade, is that so often poultrymen agree to furnish eggs, and within a few weeks or months find themselves unable to keep to their agreement, and the customer is left in the lurch.

If one happens to know or to get in touch with a good customer of this class, supplying this trade is one of the most satisfactory ways of disposing of eggs, but I doubt whether it would pay to spend much time looking for it. The prices obtained from this trade are sometimes as good as the best from family trade, often a little lower, but as the goods are taken in larger quantities the lower price may be actually better.

Probably the best trade of this kind for eggs, and certainly the best for poultry, is at the summer resort hotels in the north, and the winter resorts in the south. For practically all sales direct to consumers poultry must be dressed.

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## Marketing With One Middleman.

A most satisfactory arrangement when it can be made, is to sell direct to retailers who supply a high class grocery or provision trade. There are many such in every large city, and some in almost all towns, and as they can easily get fancy prices for fancy goods they are willing to pay something more than regular market prices for goods that suit their trade—provided they can depend on getting them regularly, and always up to quality. For all they can work off in the ordinary course of trade such firms will usually pay the highest market price, taking goods as they come, up to the amount their trade calls for. But if they can be sure of a steady supply of extra choice goods they can make a specialty of them, push them and extend their trade in those lines to the joint profit of producer and distributor.

The common obstacle to making arrangements of this kind is the inability of the producer to keep the volume of his produce steadily up to what he has agreed to furnish; repeated disappointments of this kind make these firms shy of conducting bargains with poultrymen unknown to them or whose ability to live up to their agreements remains to be proved. Hence the poultry keeper looking for a market of this kind is apt to find them quite unresponsive to the inducements he offers them.

The best way to deal with this trade is not to attempt to get it until by experience you know just what you can be reasonably sure of being able to supply week in and week out through the season or the year, and then make an arrangement on that basis. Such an arrangement does not necessarily mean a contract for only what can be supplied when production is at the lowest point, for when production is lowest consumption is generally lowest also, and when production is greatest and prices lowest, consumption is greatly increased. A retailer who wanted two cases of eggs a week in November and December, might want four in April. A producer producing a case of eggs a week in November and December, might have the four cases a week in April, and as many as were wanted during three-fourths of the year, but if he could not meet the retailer's order for the season of slack production, and someone else could, the other party would get the trade. To put it another way, the producer must find a retailer whose needs it is within his ability to supply regularly. Such a customer he can hold if his goods and his dealings are right; but if he can but partly supply a customer his hold on that business is far more uncertain.

Considering this fact with the general disposition of poultry keepers to enter into arrangements of this kind in the spring, and the too common necessity for dropping out of them before the summer is over; while I would certainly not advise anyone to let slip a contract of this kind that came his way, I would emphatically advise one not to devote much time to looking for such customers until experience had shown what quantities of produce he could safely engage to deliver.

It may seem to some that it is as well to endeavor to get this trade for such periods as one can hold a customer each year, looking up a new customer each year if necessary, but as a rule customers of this class are not so easily obtained that one can afford to do this.

## Marketing With Two Middlemen.

I can best illustrate this by describing the method of marketing the soft roaster crop of the South Shore section, to which reference has been made a number of times in these lessons.

There few of the growers dress their poultry. It is sold alive to a few firms, some of which are also growers, and these firms dress the stock and distribute it to the retailers. By this method the inequalities of production are quite generally equalized. The grower is not under necessity of supplying a definite number of fowls each week, or at any regular interval. He holds his fowls until they are ready—at their best. The collectors, being in constant touch with many producers, know just what each has and approximately how many he will have ready at any given time, and arrange their collections accordingly, with the result that the trade is satisfactorily supplied, and the producer gets the benefit of a near connection with the retail trade without any of the difficulties of maintaining such connection which beset him when he sells direct to the trade.

The opportunities to sell in this way are not general. They may, however, be found almost anywhere where production is considerable enough to make collecting worth while, and a good retail trade near enough to take the produce while still in first class condition. There are many communities in the territory tributary to the large market centers where collectors of eggs and poultry will handle them for the producer to better advantage than he can handle them for himself.

## Marketing Through Common Trade Channels.

Through the country at large poultry products after they leave the producer pass through several hands before reaching the consumer. In many places collectors send wagons all over the country surrounding their headquarters. In other places country merchants receive poultry and eggs direct from farmers, generally in exchange for goods, and forward them to buyers at central points. From these they go to commission houses in the large cities, or to the packing concerns that handle poultry and eggs, and by these are distributed to jobbers and retailers, an article frequently passing through four or five or more hands before reaching the consumer.

Now because each party who handles the article has to be paid for his services, it does not follow that the producer will save by dispensing with those services. He will not unless he can perform them himself at less cost. This he may do in special cases, but usually it is more satisfactory to sell through the general channels, and it is always the better way unless one is sure he has a better arrangement and with reliable parties.

The poultry keeper whose products pass through numerous hands before they reach the consumer, and who perhaps receives not more than half of the retail price, is apt to feel that too large a proportion of the price goes to those who have labored least. Such a view of the matter is superficial. I would not dissuade anyone from attempting to get all he can out of his produce, but I do believe that the mistaken feeling that middlemen get more than their fair share of the profits on poultry tends to keep down the production of poultry, and I want to contribute what I can to the removal of that feeling. Nearly always the poultry keeper profits most by giving his attention principally to production, and putting out his produce through the best channels of trade that reach him, whether these take it through many or few hands.

## Holding Produce for High Prices.

Here we have another matter in which producers, endeavoring to get as much as possible out of their product, may make a mistake.

With the perfecting of modern methods of cold storage, the market for limed and otherwise preserved eggs has quite disappeared. There is practically no market for eggs held in producers' hands at prices that will make it worth while to hold them. Whatever may be said of the profitability of preserving eggs for home use during the period of least production, to hold them to sell at that time is so seldom profitable that the poultryman is wisest who dismisses it from his thoughts, and markets his eggs fresh at the best going prices they will command.

Poultry should be marketed when ready for the use for which it is intended. Broilers and roasters should go at the weights, (and this means weight in good condition), at which they will bring the best prices, and the wise poultryman who is looking for trade in table poultry hatches his chickens as nearly as possible to have them ready when they will bring most money. They may be held a little while, or worked off a little early, according to condition and prices. One does not have to be exact to a day and an ounce; but to sell to best advantage, any lot of

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chickens has to go about the time it is fit. If held longer it is fed without profit, and may go back and be held at a loss. A fuller consideration of the points that arise in this connection must wait for future lessons on broilers and roasters.

### Selling Poultry Alive.

When sold to a special class of trade, poultry is usually dressed by the producer or collector. When sold to the general trade, it is dressed or sold alive, according to circumstances, the principal determining matters being the custom in the vicinity, and the grower's judgment as to which way will give him best returns. Some markets want nearly all live poultry; some nearly all dressed. St. Louis belongs to the former class; Boston has been a conspicuous dressed poultry market, taking comparatively little live poultry, but conditions are changing somewhat, and a great deal of poultry is coming here alive now, and many growers tell me the returns on live poultry are close enough to the returns on dressed to make it a matter of indifference so far as profit is concerned, which way they ship. This has not long been so. Until quite recently a grower who sold good poultry alive for this market generally sacrificed a good part of his profit.

In shipments of live poultry, returnable slatted coops are used, the express companies returning the coops free of charge.

### Methods of Killing and Dressing Poultry.

Poultry sold to a private or special trade may be dressed any way the trade will take it. Poultry to be sold dressed to the general trade, should be killed and dressed to suit the market to which it goes. As far as I am informed, all the more important markets want fowls with heads and feet on, and undrawn. There are good reasons for this; the undrawn fowl if properly starved before killing, keeps better than one that is drawn and the air thus admitted to the cavity of the body. The head and feet left on a fowl serve to show more of its age and condition than the average customer would discover without them. In selling dressed poultry to private or special trade, heads and feet are often removed, and occasionally fowls are drawn, though this is rarely done except for customers who request it. If one is selling fowls both ways, the best way to arrange the prices is to weigh all fowls undrawn and charge those whose fowls are drawn the price for undrawn plus a small charge for drawing. When selling dressed poultry to private trade I used to weigh and tag all carcasses singly or in pairs as required, after they were cooled. Then for customers who wanted them drawn we selected the weights wanted, and charged on the original, not on the weight after drawing. I don't think it would be found satisfactory to attempt to make a price for drawn poultry and one for undrawn.

### Ratio of Prices for Drawn and Undrawn Poultry.

If a poultryman is selling his poultry all drawn, and wanted to know what to make his price with relation to the price for undrawn poultry, the best way to arrive at it is to weigh an average lot of undrawn poultry, draw and weigh again. Then take the value of the poultry undrawn at the market price, add to it the charge for drawing, divide by the number of pounds the lot weighed drawn, and the resulting figure is the price per pound for the drawn poultry.

### Scalding or Dry Picking?

Poultry to be sold in the eastern markets should be dry picked, for dry picked poultry usually sells better and brings a few cents more per pound than scalded poultry. For western markets scalded poultry is preferred for home consumption, but the surplus that is shipped east works out better if dry picked. The method of picking therefore will be determined by where the poultry is to be consumed.

Poultry dressed for private trade will go just as readily scalded as dry picked, unless scalding is badly botched, and as picking after scalding is much easier than dry picking, it is quite generally the practice of those who sell direct to consumers even in this vicinity, unless they have enough to require the services of an expert picker, or to keep themselves in practice dry picking.

### How to Kill.

If fowls are to be sold with heads off they may be killed by cutting off the head, in the good old fashioned way.

If the head is to be left on, they should be killed by bleeding through a cut made generally into the roof of the mouth, and penetrating the brain. The method of making the cut has been often described, and some descriptions of dressing fowls have been quite profusely illustrated with photos of different stages of the operations of killing and plucking. The practical value of either words or pictures in teaching such operations seems problematical. When we consider how much practice with expert personal instruction it takes to make a skillful picker, we cannot make a very high estimate of the value of such instruction as it is possible to give on paper. I would advise every one who wants to learn to dress fowls or to learn another or better method than that with which he is familiar, to go to an expert picker for a practical demonstration, if it is at all possible for him to do so. I give herewith several statements of killing methods as given by different experts, and those who must learn by the book may take their choice.

### Sticking with the Fowl Held Under the Arm.

In one of the most popular methods the fowl is held under the left arm, breast up, the mouth held open with the fingers of the left hand, while with a knife held in the right hand a cut is made first across the roof of the mouth at the base of the brain, then the knife is turned and a deep cut made to penetrate the brain. The first cut severs an artery from which the fowl begins to bleed to death. The cut into the brain produces insensibility, and causes the feathers to relax so that they may be easily removed.

Then the picker sits down and begins to remove the feathers. This process is rapidly or more slowly performed according to the skill of the operator and the condition of the fowls. A fowl in good condition with full plumage, is generally easy to pick, but the impression given by some writers that if the fowl is properly stuck the feathers come out easily, and if feathers do not come easily the fault must be in the sticking, is wrong—according to the testimony of professional pickers. The pickers say that the same lot of fowls may pick hard in the morning, easy in the afternoon, or vice versa, and this when the sticking is the same and several pickers are working together, so that it is not reasonable to suppose that they are all sticking wrong, even if there were any probability of a single expert doing so. I emphasize this point because a novice who tries sticking and dry picking and finds it not so easy as from the books he got the impression that it was, is likely to puzzle himself over the method of sticking, concluding that he must be at fault there. He may be, but it does not follow necessarily, and he should be able to understand the situation better if he knows that even with experts picking is sometimes hard and slow, and that when rapidly done it is done by *skill* and *hard work*. A skillful picker will remove most of the feathers from a fowl with a few sweeping motions, but it will take him longer to get the feathers that remain, and if the fowl is full of pin feathers their removal takes some time, no matter how skillful the picker.

### The New Jersey Method.

To kill and pluck a fowl by the New Jersey method, Dr. P. T. Woods gives the following directions in "Profitable Market Poultry," published by the Cyphers Incubator Co., a book which contains much of interest and value to those growing poultry for market:—

"Provide two barrels, one for blood and waste feathers, and the other for the feathers that

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are to be saved. Place these against the side of the wall of the killing house. Have a good sharp knife with a medium sized blade, an ordinary pocket knife will answer. . . .

"A nail should be driven in the wall above the center of the barrel intended for blood and waste feathers, at a point a little higher than the head of the plucker. A noose of stout cord a few inches long is attached to this nail. The fowl's feet are secured in this noose, so that the fowl hangs up by its legs against the wall, on a line about level with the operator's shoulders. The fowl should hang in such a position that the operator can readily grasp the head and neck with the left hand, the arm in an almost horizontal position, with the elbow against the side of the body. . . .

"Grasp the neck of the fowl with the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, draw the hand gently downward until it strikes the angle of the jaw, forcing the fowl's mouth open without choking it. Hold the mouth firmly open with the third finger. The knife is first introduced into the throat, and with a couple of quick motions up and down, the larger arteries at the side of the neck just below the ear, are severed so that the bird bleeds freely. Now, hold the knife at an angle with the bird's bill, pointing toward the back part of the roof of the mouth in a line with the eye; with a rapid movement drive the knife through the roof of the mouth into the base of the bird's brain, and give a quick half turn to the blade."

As has already been said, sticking may best be learned by personal demonstration. If that is out of the question, and it is desirable to learn to kill that way, and to dry pick, practice on fowls to be consumed at home until sufficient skill is developed to enable you to turn off a good looking carcass. Meantime pick by any method you know, or hire someone to pick for you, but don't botch the killing of a lot of fowls you want to go to market and bring good prices. Badly dressed poultry will not bring first class prices.

### How to Scald a Fowl.

For the novice, scalding is the easier method, and if he has a proper equipment, and uses fair judgment in scalding, he need not spoil the looks of his poultry in the scalding.

If the fowl is to be held with head on, kill as described above, or make the cut in the neck, severing the head just back of the ear, from the body without cutting the skin more than is necessary to insert the knife.

To scald, have a kettle or other vessel of water just below the boiling point. Have the vessel large enough and enough water in it, to maintain an even temperature and to give room to scald the fowl well and quickly. I used to scald in the set kettle in which we cooked our mash. This was a fifty gallon kettle set in brick work. We would put six or eight pairs of water in it, put enough fire under to bring it almost to the boiling point, and cover the kettle until the water was ready. Usually what coals were under the kettle at that time would keep the water hot while we scalded what fowls were to be killed — about thirty to forty at a time. In any case a few pieces of small wood added would keep the water right.

We cut heads off, so had only to take a fowl by the feet, plunge under water and swish about and up and down once or twice, and take out. With a well feathered fowl the water scarcely touched the skin, but the feathers were well wet and steamed up, and were very easily removed.

If a fowl or chicken was poorly feathered or had bare spots we plunged it into the water quickly and took right out. This gave a poor "scald," but avoided damaging the skin.

The common trouble with scalded poultry is that the water is either too hot or too cold, or the scalding done in so small a vessel that the feathers cannot be wet without the skin being scalded.

When the head is to be left on, the fowl must be taken by both head and feet and the feathers wet without the hot water scalding the head, otherwise the head would present a most unattractive appearance.

### Cleaning and Cooling.

Whatever method of killing and plucking is used, the carcass should be clean, well plucked, and made as attractive as possible. Slipshod and slovenly dressing will make good poultry grade low. There are several things which detract from the appearance and selling value of poultry as it reaches the consumer.

The first of these is the fitting of poultry for killing. It should be kept without food for at least twenty-four hours before killing, that the crop and intestines may be empty. If the crop contains food the carcass looks bad, and the food souring in it may taint the meat. If the intestines are not empty their contents may affect the meat of the parts near them. For looks, quality, and keeping properties, the starving before killing is necessary.

Many fowls well killed and well plucked, are not made clean before being sent to market. Blood is left on the head and mouth, and often manure on the feet, and bloody smears on the skin. The carcass should be clean, the parts to be cut off as well as what is to be eaten.

A great deal of dressed poultry begins to spoil before it reaches consumers, or spoils quickly in their hands, because it has not been properly cooled. This is the trouble, too, with much of the poultry the grower thinks is first class, while dealers and buyers rate it lower. Poultry that has not been properly cooled spoils quickly, and is apt to be flabby and insipid.

Place the carcasses as soon as dressed clean in cold water. Running water is best, but still water changed a few times will do. In hot weather it is best to use ice. Thorough cooling requires several hours. It will do no harm to keep the carcasses in the cold water all day, or over night, and that may be advisable if the weather is warm. If the weather is cool enough it is better to take the carcasses out of the water when cool, and hang in a cool place until ready to pack them.

The object of cooling is to get the animal heat out of the body as quickly as possible. If this is not done decomposition sets in almost at once, and advances rapidly, and the poultry which leaves the producer's hands apparently in fine condition reaches its market in bad shape, the shipper gets returns for a lower grade of stuff than he shipped, and often concludes that the parties he shipped to were dishonest, when the fault was all his own.

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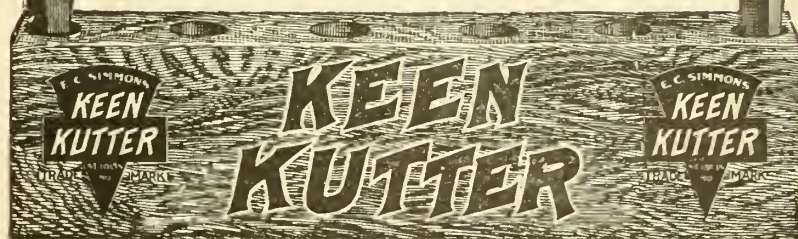
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The curriculum now includes the theoretical teaching formerly given, concerning the production of eggs and flesh for the table, and birds of elegant carriage and fine plumage for display, and an increase in the practical operations of the poultry plant.

In the following list of topics to be studied during the course those with a \* are expected to be also pursued by the student in the poultry yard; a colony house, incubator and brooders, and fattening crates being assigned to each student. Lectures, demonstrations, and practicals will be concerned with:

Incubation, \*Brooding, Rearing, Broilers, Roasters, Capons, Fowls, Ducks, Turkeys, Geese, Foods, \*Feeding for eggs or flesh, \*Cramming, \*Marketing, Poultry plants:—location, drainage, yarding, colonizing, buildings, \*plans, \*specifications, \*estimates and construction.

The science and art of poultry keeping have become so specialized that some of the above topics designate special varieties of the business which are now successfully followed. The course enables beginners to decide upon the branch to choose and to learn the adapted methods.

The subjects of the course have been so distributed that there are practically two groups requiring about six weeks each, and students not desiring to remain throughout the session could well take either half. The earlier half is to be devoted to incubation, brooding, rearing, foods, feeding, forcing and marketing; while the latter half is to include breeds, breeding, mating, judging, poultry plants, buildings and management. Students working for a certificate of proficiency will be required to take the full course of lectures and practical work, but others may arrange to take such portions as they are deficient in. In short the course is designed to permit men or women of limited time or means to acquire special instruction in such part as they desire in the shortest possible time at the least expense.

As now arranged the course offers especial advantages to him who intends to take up the industry either on his own account or as manager or foreman for others. During the past year the college had at least a score of inquiries for poultrymen, which they were unable to fill. Since these inquiries increase in number from year to year, and those who have attended render good account of themselves, it is not unreasonable to suppose that there will be places for all who care to accept them. While the wages paid young poultrymen are not large, apprenticeship brings experience and enlarged opportunity, and fits the worker for the larger places or for doing business alone. The schooling, costing \$100 for a complete course, may be considered as an investment which yields not the five per cent a year for the loan, but an increase of ten per cent upward per month, which is the increase the same man may receive after he has thoroughly equipped himself by a short course. To this must be added the security of position generated by the holder knowing his business.

Rhode Island contains the best poultry market in the world; it raises comparatively little of the poultry consumed, and only the freshest, plumpest of the "nearby" stock commands the highest prices. To those who love outdoor life and desire to live in the country, there is no more promising field in farming either as a main crop or side line. To such the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, at Kingston, R. I., offers an opportunity. The ninth winter course begins January 2d, 1906, and ends March 23d.

## Something to Crow About.



**Why Pay Your Good Money?**  
FOR SUPPOSED PRIZE WINNERS WHEN YOU CAN GET GUARANTEED FIRST PRIZE WINNERS  
FOR PERHAPS NO MORE, THEN IF THEY DO NOT WANT AS PURCHASED FOR, MAKE THE PRICE EQUAL TO BREEDING BIRDS.  
THE YEARS OF THE COUNTRY BLUE LEAD ALL OTHERS, BUILD UP OUR BUSINESS AND GIVE PLEASURE AND PROFIT TO THE OWNER.  
OVER 2000 FIRST PRIZE WINNERS  
BRED BY ELM POULTRY FARMS IN THE PAST 15 YEARS.  
WINNERS FOR MANY PATTERNS AS WELL AS MYSELF.  
CHAMPIONSHIPS—MEDALS—CUPS—SPECIALS & ETC.  
THIS IS A BARGAIN WITH ME FOR OVER 15 YEARS.  
3000 AND OVER LAYING BRED BIRDS, BRED ON SEPARATE LINES FOR GREAT EGG PRODUCTION FOR STOCKING PURPOSES.  
FAMILY USE AND SO ON. ALL BIRDS IN PERFECT HEALTH, AND ALL CATCHES UP WITH THE BEST OF THE BREED.  
ELM POULTRY FARMS  
202 E. HARTFORD, CONN. U.S.A. ESTABLISHED 1890

### RHODE ISLAND REDS.

SHOVE'S Rhode Island Reds and Houdans give satisfaction. Write for wants. Daniel P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.

ROSE COMB, R. I. Red cockerels, \$1.50 to \$3 ea. James H. Jackson, Tamarac, Ill.

SINGLE Comb R. I. Red cockerels from \$3 up; a few pullets from \$2 up. Also young Indian Runner drakes \$2.50 each. Address, White Birch Farm, or W. H. Withington, Union St., Bridgewater, Mass.

500 ROSE and Single Comb R. I. Red hens, yearlings, for sale, \$1.50 to \$2.50 each; cocks and cockerels, \$2 up; 200 birds all farm raised; give us a trial. Elmwood Poultry Farm, Bridgewater, Mass.

S. R. C. R. I. Red hens \$1.25; cockerels \$1 and \$2. E. L. Prickett, Hazardville, Conn.

20 SINGLE Comb R. I. Red hens \$1 each; several good cocks \$2; cockerels \$3 up. E. O. Cornforth, Slatersville, R. I.

ROSE and SINGLE Comb Red cockerels \$3 to \$10; pullets \$2 to \$5. F. R. Brownell, Little Compton, R. I.

CLARK FARM, CONCORD, MASS., has a large stock of cockerels and pullets for sale. Hardy vigorous farm bred and farm raised birds from \$1.50 up.

### TRAP NESTS.

THE "IDEAL" shows which hen laid the egg. It is worth while. For information, write to the originator of practical trap nesting. Frank O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine.

### TURKEYS.

W. H. turkeys, \$5 to \$7 pair. Aucona cock's \$1. B. I. Brown, R. R. 3, Waterford, Pa.

THREE Bronze turkeys and tom, \$17 for quick sale. T. D. Schofield, Woodstock, N. H.

### WANTED.

PULLETS WANTED, any number, any variety. Hollis, Park & Pollard Co., Canal St., Boston.

WANTED, Pullets, S. C. White Leghorns, Write Box 279, Wilson, N. Y.

EARLY PULLETS, 100 B. P. R. and W. Wyandottes. Send description and price to F. D. W., care of Farm-Poultry.

WANTED, position on a poultry farm by an experienced man; wages moderate; best of references. Address L., Box 82, Summit, R. I.

WANTED, position by practical poultryman 6 yrs ex.; single ref. R. G., West Acton, Mass.

PRACTICAL poultryman wants a position; steady, sober, handy with tools, take charge or assist, ref. George Ellison, Route 1, Ipswich, Mass.

### WYANDOTTES.

CHAMPION strain Silver Wyandottes. We won 14 out of a possible 15 firsts at Boston in our last three exhibits. Stock for sale, and eggs for hatching at \$3 per 151 pair hatched duckies at half price. J. C. Jodrey, Box A, Danvers, Mass.

COLUMBIAN WYANDOTTES. First prize pen at Boston, 1905. Eggs \$2. Stock for sale. R. G. Richardson, R. F. D. 2, Lowell, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, SILVER MEDAL winners, old and young for sale. Good bargains. Prize winners or egg layers. Write me. D. Lincoln Orr, Box 2, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, yearlings and young stock, for sale at all seasons. Barries & Woodbury, Wenham, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTE cockerels \$2 and \$3 each; choice stock, trio of fine breeders \$7 from a strain of heavy layers. C. A. Stevens & Co., Box 4, Wilson, N. Y.

BUSINESS W. Wyandottes. Stock for sale; trap nests used. Michael K. Boyer, Hammon, N. J.

WHITE Wyandottes — Snowdrift strain, big, white, blocky cockerels; also 1904 hatch cocks. Describe what you want—the price will be right. Picturesque Poultry Farm, Trenton Junction, N. J.

CYCLONE Strain White Wyandotte cockerels \$3 H. E. Sullings, Malden, Mass.

SILVER Penciled Wyandottes, fine exhibition and breeding stock. J. T. Andrews, Glastonbury, Ct.

BUFF Wyandottes, good cockerels \$3, \$4, \$5, bred from extra good stock; pens headed by winning males; also pens or trios, the kind that lay and win. A. L. Hatbaway, Abington, Mass.

COCKERELS of quality — young active birds that will make fine breeders. Three dollars each now. Write. F. H. Lovejoy, Roslyn, Pa.

GOLDEN, Silver Penciled, and Buff Wyandottes. Choice breeding and exhibition birds, old and young, easy prices. Grand record Springfield, Mad-on Square. Mary N. Poultry Farm, No. Hatfield, Mass.

SILVER Laced Wyandottes. Same fine stock, both male and female for sale. Same grade that I won the ribbons with at Boston and New York last winter; prices low, quality considered. Send for circular. H. P. Chae, Box 710, Andover, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCK'S, that are white, and grand in shape, eyes, combs, and legs. Bred from my Boston winners. Pairs and trios mated to breed and exhibition birds; 13 years a breeder of White Wyandottes. Let me quote prices before you buy. J. W. Andrews, Dighton, Mass.

PARTRIDGE Wyandotte specialist exhibition and breeding stock of both sexes for sale at reasonable prices. C. E. George, Union City, Mich.

100 BUFF WYANDOTTES must be sold before January 1st. First order gets best. Trios, \$5 and upwards. Satisfaction guaranteed; circular. E. S. Wilson, South Hammond, N. Y.

FOR SALE, Silver Laced Wyandottes, four cockerels and ten pullets; best stock finely bred. Write with stamp to John S. T. Wallace, Barnet, Vermont.

To say, when writing Advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

## Interesting and Instructive TRADE TOPICS

as discussed and submitted by advertisers. Our readers will find in these brief mentions of special features, of claims advanced and short business arguments, much information of a nature which will not only add substantially to their knowledge of current trade happenings and affairs, but may help materially to decide subsequent buying problems.

### The Value of Good Tools.

#### Tool Buying No Longer a Matter of Luck.

Pretty nearly everybody knows how valuable tools are. In a general way they know the part tools play in building the home, in the making of furniture and doing hundreds of other useful things. In fact, the home that has not constant use for a saw or an axe, or a tool of some sort hardly exists.

Notwithstanding the general knowledge of the utility of tools, few people seem to realize what a lot of money can be saved by having a tool chest in the home. Shelves can be put in cupboards, furniture that is damaged can be fixed, and lots of improvements can be made. The best of it all is, very little experience is needed to give anyone a good working knowledge of how to use tools.

Ordinarily, buying tools is largely a matter of guesswork. If you want an axe you go to the nearest hardware store and ask for "an axe." If it turns out to be a good axe you are lucky. If use proves it to be a poor one you have to make out with it or buy another. In other words, it is all a matter of luck.

However, it is very simple for anyone—even a child—to buy a tool of any kind and be positive that it will be the finest tool that can be made, and that it will give satisfaction in every respect. You say "How?" By simply asking for the Keen Kutter brand. For the name Keen Kutter covers a complete line of tools, this brand being the only complete line of tools to receive the Grand Prize at the St. Louis Exposition.

Keen Kutter tools have been the standard of America for thirty-six years, and are without doubt the finest tools it is possible to produce. Every Keen Kutter tool is made under the mark and motto that "The recollection of quality remains long after the price is forgotten." Yet Keen Kutter tools cost but a trifle more at first than inferior kinds, and in the long run are much more economical.

If your dealer does not keep Keen Kutter tools, write the Simmons Hardware Co., St. Louis, Mo., or 298 Broadway, New York, who will see that you are supplied.

### Curious Transportation in Africa.

A large shipment of Ruberoid Roofing some time ago went to Chinde, East Africa. It had been ordered in rolls two-thirds the usual size, in order to make them light enough in weight to accommodate the native carriers, who carry them into the interior of British East Africa, and who object strenuously to superfluous labor. The manufacturers of the roofing received the strange request that on all future orders the outside label should be pasted on the end of the rolls, instead of at the center, as is usual. The curious reason given for this request is that the carriers always carry the roofing on their heads, and it was found they thought the label which was stuck on the middle of the roll was meant to show them where to put their heads. They therefore moulded a hollow in the roll, without damaging the roofing, so that it just fitted the shape of their heads, and so carried it very easily. The perspiration from the negroes' heads, however, completely destroyed the label and made it unreadable, so that when the roofing

reached its destination they were unable to distinguish the different plys, etc.

The intense dry heat of Africa has had no injurious effect upon Ruberoid Roofing, and it has attained an enviable prestige among the large users, who recognize its superiority to tar and asphalt roofings which cannot resist this tropical climate. The Standard Paint Company, 100 William St., New York, will send free to those who wish for Booklet P an interesting treatise on Ruberoid.

### White Leghorn Specials at Madison Square.

The National S. C. W. Leghorn club offer the following specials to be competed for by its members at Madison Square Garden, January 2d—7th inclusive.

\$50 silver cup for best cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, and pen—to be won three times.

\$25 each for 1st cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, pen.

\$20 each for 2d cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, pen.

\$10 each for 3d cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, pen.

\$5 each for 4th cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, pen.

One Cornell incubator No. 3, valued at \$35, for best display.

E. G. WYCKOFF, Pres., Ithaca, N. Y.

IRVING F. RICE, Sec'y-treas., Cortland, N. Y.

### Interesting Book on Asthma.

A very interesting book regarding Asthma has recently been issued by the Dr. P. Harold Hayes Asthmatic Institute, of Buffalo, New York, which is a recognized authority on the constitutional treatment of Asthma and Hay Fever. Over 60,000 cases of these two diseases alone have been treated by this institution. It doesn't have any medicine to sell in drug stores or by mail; it takes charge of each case just as a regular physician would, and instructs the patient by mail as to the means of having the cause of the diseases eliminated from the system. Ever since 1883, this Dr. P. Harold Hayes Asthmatic Institute has been successful in curing Asthma and Hay Fever, so that neither symptoms nor attacks would return after the treatment was discontinued. Any reader of FARM-POULTRY can write to Dr. P. Harold Hayes, Buffalo, New York, and ask for Book 47 F, and it will be mailed postage prepaid, without charge. This is done as a courtesy to our readers, and also in order to let the public know the facts regarding the inability of smokes, sprays, "specifics," and so-called "cures," or any single medicine to permanently cure Asthma and Hay Fever.

### The Wind Up Show.

The Fanciers' Association, of Indiana, will hold its sixth annual exhibition in Tomlinson's hall, Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 5—10, 1906. In addition to poultry we will make special classes for dogs, cats, pet stock, and pigeons. The entry fee for poultry is \$1 for single entries; \$3 for breeding pens. Single entries cannot compete for breeding pen prizes. The association will pay the following cash prizes:

Single entries—first, \$3; second, \$2; third, \$1; fourth, 50 cents. Breeding pens—first, \$4; second, \$2.50; third, \$1.50. In addition to cash prizes we will give an elegant silver cup in all classes where there are ten or more single entries.

The Empire Cooping Co., of Fultonville, N. Y., will have charge of caging the entire exhibit.

Our judges have judged before. The judges selected are the most prominent men in the ring today; they have had years of experi-

ence, and have judged the most important classes at the leading shows in America. They are:

James A. Tucker, Geo. Burgott, Wesley Lantus, Ben S. Myers, W. C. Pierce, O. L. McCord, S. B. Lane, Theo. Hewes, C. M. Ryan. The premium list will be ready for mailing not later than December 1st. For further particulars address E. A. Pierce, sec'y, or Theo. Hewes, president, Indianapolis, Ind.

### A Wonderful Result.

The little sun-house shown below, lined with one layer of double-ply "Quilt," on roof, ends, and floor, and two layers on the back, with one layer ordinary red paper on the



"Quilt," achieved an inside temperature of over 100° F. (in the shade) when the temperature outside was below zero—a result due wholly to the sun's heat and the perfect insulation which prevented it from escaping.

This remarkable result can be duplicated in any well built poultry house (which is of almost exactly similar construction to that of the sun-house) by the use of Cabot's Sheathing Quilt, free samples of which will be sent on request by the sole manufacturer, Samuel Cabot, 5 Oliver St., Boston, Mass., who also has agents at all central points.

## THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION

Improvement is the order of the age. There is no such thing as "perfection." Neither is there such a thing as maintaining the same position all the time. We must go forward or backward on the measure of merit either in men or materials. In our business we have made greater strides forward this year than ever before; at any rate we are willing to let you be the judge of that after all the evidence and proofs have been placed before you. In the past two or three months we have offered to the poultry fraternity some of our latest improvements in brooders, colony houses, etc., that have yet been advanced, and the avalanche of responses and sales we have obtained on these goods is the best kind of evidence we could have that our improvements in these lines are far ahead of anything ever offered. But we have saved our highest achievement in improvements of apparatus for artificial incubation for announcement in this month's issue of the poultry press, and that is our

## 1906 STANDARD Prairie State Incubator

It represents the greatest step forward in incubator making, and we are particularly enthusiastic over its development, simply because of the remarkable results it has produced in actual test under the most adverse conditions. We were satisfied what it would accomplish under favorable conditions but we wanted to know just what it would do under the most unfavorable conditions. To be plain, we wanted it to be proof against neglect or mistakes of the operator.

When we began our experiments for improving the Standard Prairie State we had a definite object in view. We determined, if possible, to make a machine anybody could run successfully anywhere. We started out to make a machine that would practically run itself; make it so automatic in action that error of operation, ignorance of operation, neglect, etc., would be no barrier, would be entirely overcome. To do this, meant it must be both simple and certain so that the novice would be on equal footing with the expert, and also that it require the least attention and care. Last but not least, it must produce the highest per cent of strong, vigorous chicks from every hatch, and we are pleased to say we succeeded. Better yet, we can say the Standard Prairie State Incubator will prove it in actual operation, because it has features found on no other incubator. For instance:

1. The self-ejector or automatic gravity heat distributor.
2. Self-adjusting or compensating thermostatic, automatic heat regulator, three times as sensitive as the old regulator.
3. Automatic ventilation.
4. Automatic moisture supply.
5. Large air space above and below the eggs.
6. Removable bottoms, making easy to clean.
7. Egg trays contain any size of eggs, hen, duck or Bantam, without change.
8. Large incubators have chick drawers.
9. The system of heating that gives the highest per cent of hatches.

## PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATORS

WRITE TO  
JOSEPH BRECK & SONS, - 47 to 54 N. Market St., - Boston, Mass.

They are New England Incubators and Brooders. The Prairie State Incubators and Brooders will mail catalog free and quick to any place.



Not found on any other incubator

If you would avoid mistakes in your future incubator purchases, buy the Standard Prairie State. We have in press a circular fully describing and illustrating in detail the new features of this machine. They are so plainly described and illustrated that even the inexperienced can understand their merit and great advantages. Send us your name and address and as soon as we get this circular from the printer a copy will be mailed free. You ought to have it. If interested in the latest and most successful brooders, colony houses, etc., ask for descriptive circulars—they're free.

THE  
Prairie State Incubator Co.  
479 Main St., Homer City, Pa

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

## MARKET REVIEW.

## BOSTON.

[From Boston Produce Market Report, Nov. 6, 1905].

## Eggs.

Receipts today, 3,717 cases; same time last year, 1,648 cases; receipts 6 days, 16,198 cases; same time last year, 11,522.

Receipts are larger than a week ago, but include a larger proportion of held goods. There is no increase in the supply of fancy fresh, and such goods are in demand at full prices. Fancy Mich. bold firm at 27¢, and best marks of Ind., Ills., etc., if they show a good proportion of new laid, sell easily at 27¢. Other fresh gathered western sell generally at 20¢ to 24¢, as to quality. Refrigerators steady at quotations.

## Quotations at Mark.

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Fancy henneries                      | 38. @   |
| Me., Vt., and N. H., extras          | 28. @30 |
| Me., Vt., and N. H., common to good  | 25. @25 |
| Michigan fancy                       | 27. @28 |
| Northwestern, best marks             | 22. @23 |
| Ind., Ills., and N. Ohio, best marks | 26. @27 |
| Other fresh western                  | 22. @24 |
| Western dirties                      | 15. @   |

## Refrigerators—

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Boston storage, April pack  | 21. @214 |
| Western storage, April pack | 20. @204 |

## Dressed Poultry.

Receipts today, 1,446 packages; same time last year, 625 packages; receipts six days, 4,514 packages; same time last year, 3,303 packages.

Receipts were liberal today, and there was considerable stock carried over from Saturday. The weather is rainy, demand slack, and the feeling on most all kinds of dressed poultry is dull and weak. Turkeys are in liberal supply, and No. 1 dry packed Kentucky work out slowly at about 18¢. Western iced turkeys are plenty and dull at 14¢ to 18¢, as to quality. Best marks of western iced fowls are offering freely at 12¢, and have a slow sale, with ordinary lots hard to place at 11¢ to 11½¢. Western broilers are still in short supply, but roasting chickens are plenty, and 13¢ about top for best lots, with mixed sizes very dull at 11¢ to 12¢. Old coops are in steady demand at 12¢.

Northern turkeys are quite plenty, and fancy lots sell in a small way at 23¢ to 25¢. Roasting chickens plenty and selling slowly. Broilers scarce. Ducks steady.

## Fresh Killed Northern and Eastern—

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Turkeys, choice young, ½ lb.   | 23. @25 |
| Turkeys, common to good, ½ lb. | 18. @20 |
| Fowls, choice, ½ lb.           | 14. @   |
| Fowls, common to good, ½ lb.   | 12. @13 |
| Chickens, choice large, ½ lb.  | 18. @   |
| Chickens, mixed sizes, ½ lb.   | 14. @15 |
| Green ducks, ½ lb.             | 17. @18 |

## Nearby Broilers—

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Choice 3½ to 4 lbs. to pair, ½ lb. | 18. @20         |
| Fair to good, ½ lb.                | 15. @17         |
| Pigeons, choice, ½ doz.            | \$1.50 @ \$1.75 |
| Pigeons, common to good, ½ doz.    | 1.00 @ 1.25     |
| Squabs, ½ doz.                     | 2.50 @ 3.00     |

## Western Ice Packed—

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Turkeys, choice young, ½ lb.         | 17. @18  |
| Turkeys, common to good ½ lb.        | 14. @16  |
| Fowls, choice western ½ lb.          | 12½. @   |
| Fowls, choice southwestern           | 12. @    |
| Fowls, common to good, ½ lb.         | 11. @11½ |
| Chickens, large roasting ½ lb.       | 13. @    |
| Chickens, mixed sizes ½ lb.          | 11. @12  |
| Broilers, 3 to 4 lbs. to pair, ½ lb. | 15. @16  |
| Old coops, ½ lb.                     | 10. @    |

## Live Poultry.

Receipts are liberal, and best fowls and chickens in light demand and hard to sell at over 11¢.

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Fowls, ½ lb.           | 11. @   |
| Roosters, ½ lb.        | 8. @    |
| Spring chickens, ½ lb. | 11. @   |
| Ducks, Pekin ½ lb.     | 14. @15 |

## NEW YORK.

[From the Producers' Price Current, Nov. 6, 1905].

## Eggs.

Receipts today, 5,828 cases; last six days, 44,007, previous six days, 32,665. The market is without change in its general features. Receipts have shown some increase, but so far it seems to consist chiefly of refrigerator stock, of which rather more has been coming from interior points. Advice as to shipments of fresh are conflicting, but, on the whole, indicate very little increase. Fine fresh are still wanted to the full extent of supply, and while quotations cover most of the arrivals, they are occasionally exceeded. Fresh dirties scarce, and they would sell well. Refrigerator eggs are moving quite freely from the storehouses, but dealers are drawing chiefly upon previous purchases. The current demand on the wholesale market is only moderate, and chiefly for extra fine qualities or cheap stock; many of the samples shown are not attractive to present buyers, and cannot be sold at the quotations, while the top figure quoted is occasionally exceeded something fancy.

N. Y. Mercantile Exchange Official Quotations.

|                                               |         |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| Fresh gathered, extras, ½ doz.                | @28     |
| Nearby fresh gathered, firsts to extra firsts | 25. @26 |
| Western fresh gathered extra firsts           | @26     |
| Western fresh gathered firsts                 | 24. @25 |
| Western fresh gathered seconds                | 21. @22 |
| Western fresh gathered thirds                 | 19. @20 |
| Kentucky fresh gathered seconds               | 21. @22 |
| Tennessee fresh gathered seconds              | 20. @21 |
| Kentucky and Tenn. fresh gathered thirds      | 18. @19 |

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Western dirties No. 1 | 17. @174 |
| Western dirties No. 2 | 15. @16  |
| Cheeked eggs          | 13. @16  |
| Refrigerator firsts   | 21½. @22 |
| Refrigerator seconds  | 20. @21  |
| Refrigerator thirds   | 18. @19  |

## Dressed Poultry.

Receipts today, 936 pkgs.; last six days, 11,957 pkgs.; previous six days, 9,189 pkgs.; corresponding six days last year, 9,124 packages. Receipts of dressed poultry are up against it good and hard this week. Receipts are liberal and invoices heavy, weather damp and unfavorable, while tomorrow, election day, is a close holiday, and buyers generally inclined to hold off and only purchase such small lots as needed for the day, preferring to wait Wednesday's fresh receipts. Holders are anxious to sell, and the general market presents a weak and lower appearance.

Spring turkeys show a decided increase in the receipts and invoices, and with a slow demand prices are considerably lower on all grades. Spring chickens in liberal supply, both of large roasting and medium weights, and with slow demand prices are lower on all grades. Fancy heavy dry pickled fowls continue scarce, and a few selected out would bring a premium over quotations, but for average grades of dry pickled fowls it is difficult to exceed 11¢, for best western, or 10¢ to 10½¢, for scalded, while southwestern scalded fowls freely offered at 10¢. Some holders are packing for the freezer, not because they wish to, but simply have no other alternative in absence of important demand. Nearby spring ducks are practically done for the season, and we drop quotations. Fancy large and plump western spring ducks in moderate supply and firm, but small and thin lots sell slowly. Very few spring geese arriving. Nearby poultry and squabs nominally unchanged in absence of fresh receipts.

## Fresh Killed—Ice Packed Turkeys—

|                                            |          |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| Spring, dry pickled, selected, (culls out) | @ 18     |
| Spring, dry pickled, average run           | 15. @ 16 |

|                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| Spring, dry pickled, poor to medium    | 10. @ 14 |
| Spring, scalded, selected, (culls out) | @ 18     |
| Spring, scalded, average run           | 15. @ 16 |
| Spring, scalded, poor to medium        | 10. @ 14 |
| Old, selected, (culls out)             | @ 18     |
| Old, poor to medium                    | 14. @ 16 |

|                                                 |          |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Chickens, Broilers—1 lbs. per pair and under—   |          |
| Philadelphia, dry pickled, fancy                | 22. @ 24 |
| Philadelphia, dry pickled, average run          | @ 20     |
| New York and Pa., dry pickled, fancy            | @ 20     |
| New York and Pa., dry pickled, average run      | @ 16     |
| Western, milk fed, dry pickled, fancy           | 18. @ 20 |
| Western, milk fed, scalded, fancy               | 16. @ 17 |
| Western, dry pickled, selected, (culls out)     | 16. @ 17 |
| Western, dry pickled, average run               | 14. @ 15 |
| South and southwestern, dry pickled average run | 13. @ 14 |
| Western, scalded, fancy                         | @ 14     |
| Western, scalded, average run                   | 12. @ 13 |
| South and southwestern, scalded, average run    | 11. @ 12 |
| South and southwestern, scalded, poor to medium | 9. @ 10  |

## AN INCUBATOR TRIUMPH

SUCH AS NEVER BEFORE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED  
IN THE HISTORY OF THE ART OF INCUBATION.

Story of the 1906 Pattern Standard Cyphers, telling how the Cyphers



The 1906 Pattern  
Standard Cyphers.

What would you think if some one were to tell you that the Cyphers Incubator Co., within the short period of two years, had improved its standard incubators to so great an extent that the leading poultrymen of this country are today practically unanimous in pronouncing it to be "the most perfect hatching machine ever devised by human ingenuity and skill?"

That is precisely what has been done, and it will be our pleasure to prove this claim to the satisfaction of all persons who read the series of advertisements of which this is NUMBER ONE.

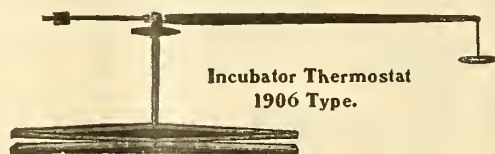
We dare say you've heard about the Cyphers Incubator.

Most people have who read poultry papers.

It may be, therefore, that you have knowledge of the fact that thousands of poultrymen, including the most experienced and expert operators of incubators in this and foreign lands, have repeatedly declared their belief—based on conviction—that the genuine Standard Cyphers Incubators, for years past, have been the best hatching machines on the world's markets.

Times without number in the history of the art, incubator and brooder manufacturers—experienced men at that—have made changes in their machines, acting in good faith, but without taking the proper precaution to make absolutely sure that the changes were in fact improvements.

Placing untried goods on the market is both unwise and unfair. It is unwise from the point of financial investment, because the individual or company that does this will be called on to replace the defective or worthless articles, and it is unfair for the reason that the buyers of such goods will be disappointed and injured. Nor will their loss ever be made good. The defective articles may be replaced, but this does not restore lost opportunities.



Incubator Thermostat  
1906 Type.

**MAKING ABSOLUTELY SURE:** It was for the foregoing reasons that the Cyphers Incubator Company, even after its officers became convinced, as a result of carefully conducted experiments, that several well considered additions to its standard incubators were valuable aids to incubation, nevertheless decided to subject the new patterns to a decisive test in all parts of the United States and Canada, before offering them for sale.

Incubator Company, after two years of investigation and experimenting, constructed 250 new-pattern machines, then, instead of offering them, untried, to the buying public, secured abundant and absolute proof of their superior hatching qualities by having them tested in all parts of the U. S. and Canada.

We realized, too, that extreme care should be exercised in seeking to improve the old style Cyphers, which has excelled in hatching records all other makes of incubators, both in this country and Europe. Thousands of poultry raisers have pronounced it practically perfect, basing their opinion on its work as compared with that of other types of incubators. Nevertheless, it was our belief that the machine could be improved, and neither time nor money was spared in the effort.

**PUT TO THE TEST:** After working a year and a half on lines as above indicated, we manufactured during the latter part of April, 1905, 250 of what we styled the 1906 pattern Standard Cyphers Incubators, embodying in their construction the various improvements we believed should be made, and then more than 225 of these new pattern machines were shipped by us to well known poultrymen and experienced operators located in widely distant sections of the country, to some near the seacoast, to others in the central west, to others in northern latitudes, to others in the southern states and to still others located at high altitudes, in mountainous regions. We were determined to have the new style machines tested by actual use in every latitude where incubators can be successfully operated.

In sending out the 1906 pattern Standard Cyphers Incubators to be tested throughout the United States and Canada, we did not select solely such poultrymen as were customers of this company, but included a considerable number whom we knew had been using incubators during many years, and regardless of what make of incubators they were using. Invariably we selected men whose names in the poultry business are synonymous with integrity and reliability. In our opinion not one of these men would make a false report or lend his name to purposes of deception, either directly or indirectly.

**TAKING LONG CHANCES:** We fully understood, at the time we sent out these machines, that it was late in the season, and that therefore we were taking long chances as regards satisfactory results. If the reports received of the trial hatches had ranged from 70 to 80 per cent of the fertile eggs, we would have been satisfied. The readers may well imagine, therefore, our gratification when report after report came in, representing practically all parts of the country, telling of 85, 90, 95 and 100 per cent hatches made with the new pattern machine in the hot weather of June, July and August, after the fowls had been laying all spring, and at the time when fertility was low and the germs were weak. These reports, exactly as received by us, and representing practically every State in the Union, from the Atlantic seaboard to Colorado, and from Canada to the Gulf States, will appear in our 1906 catalogue, and as many of them as practicable will be published in the series of advertisements, of which this is NUMBER ONE.



New Lamp Support.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD, IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

**Chickens, Roasting—8 lbs. per pair and over—**

|                                                    |     |    |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Philadelphia, dry picked, average run...           | 17. | 18 |
| New York and Pa., dry picked, average run...       | 12. | 13 |
| New York and Pa., dry picked, poor to medium...    | 14. | 11 |
| Western, milk fed, dry picked, fancy...            | 14. | 15 |
| Western, milk fed, scalded, fancy...               | 13. | 14 |
| Western, dry picked, selected, (culls out)...      | 11. | 12 |
| Western, dry picked, average run...                | 11. | 11 |
| Western, dry picked, poor to medium...             | 9.  | 10 |
| Southern, dry picked, average run...               | 11. | 11 |
| Western, scalded, selected, (culls out)...         | 11. | 12 |
| Western, scalded, average run...                   | 11. | 11 |
| Western, scalded, poor to medium...                | 9.  | 10 |
| South and southwestern, scalded, average run...    | 11. | 11 |
| South and southwestern, scalded, poor to medium... | 8.  | 9  |

**Chickens, Medium Weights—**

|                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| Philadelphia, dry picked, average run... | 16 |
|------------------------------------------|----|

**New York and Pa., dry picked, average run**

|                                                     |     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Western, milk fed, dry picked, fancy...             | 12. | 13 |
| Western, milk fed, scalded, fancy...                | 12. | 12 |
| Western, dry picked, average run...                 | 11. | 11 |
| Western, dry picked, poor to medium...              | 9.  | 10 |
| Southern, dry picked, average run...                | 10. | 10 |
| Western, scalded, average run...                    | 10. | 11 |
| Western, scalded, poor to medium...                 | 8.  | 9  |
| South and southwestern, scalded, average run...     | 9.  | 10 |
| South and southwestern, scalded, inferior grades... | 8.  | 9  |

**Fowls -**

|                                                                     |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Philadelphia, dry picked, fancy.....                                | 14       |
| Philadelphia, dry picked, average run..                             | 13       |
| Western, dry picked, 5 lbs. and over.<br>selected, (culls out)..... | 12. @ 12 |
| Western, dry picked, average run .....                              | @ 11     |
| Western, dry picked, poor to medium                                 | 9.. @ 10 |
| Southern and southwestern, dry picked<br>average run.....           | @ 10     |
| Western, scalded, selected, (culls out)..                           | 10. @ 11 |

|                                                         |       |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|
| Western, scalded, average run .....                     | 91. @ | 10 |
| Western, scalded, poor to medium.....                   | 8. @  | 9  |
| Southern and southwestern, scalded,<br>average run..... | (a    | 1  |
| Southern and southwestern, inferior<br>grades.....      | 9. @  | 9  |

**Other Poultry—**

|                                                     |        |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Old cocks, dry picked.....                          | a      | 9      |
| Old cocks, scalded.....                             | @      | 8      |
| Ducks, spring, western, 1 lb.....                   | 10.    | @ 14   |
| Geese, eastern, white 1 lb.....                     | 18.    | @ 20   |
| Geese, eastern, dark, 1 lb.....                     | 15.    | @ 16   |
| Geese, western, average run.....                    | 7.     | @ 10   |
| Squabs, prime white, 8 lbs. to doz., 1 doz.....     | @      | \$4 00 |
| Squabs, prime white, 7 lbs. to doz., 1 doz.....     | @      | 3 00   |
| Squabs, prime white, 6 1/2 lbs. to doz., 1 doz..... | @      | 2 50   |
| Squabs, mixed, 1 doz.....                           | \$2 00 | @ 25   |
| Squabs, dark, 1 doz.....                            | @      | 1 75   |
| Squabs, culls, 1 doz.....                           | 50.    | @ 75   |

**Live Poultry.**

Receipts today included 16 cars of western by

**Improvements in 1906 Pattern Standard****Cyphers Incubators.**

(Five New Patents Pending.)

The improvements made by us in the Standard Cyphers Incubators, and what we claim for them, briefly stated, are as follows:

1. Increased cubic capacity of hatching chamber, giving a greater volume of air and supplying more oxygen to the developing chick embryo.

2. Drop or hinged bottom to all Standard machines (Nos. 0, 1, 2 and 3) which, when let down, exposes the entire lower felt diaphragm, thus securing greater elasticity of ventilation, thereby adapting these machines to a far wider latitude in range of temperature.

3. Self-elevating nursery drawers (in the Nos. 2 and 3 Standard machines) for the reception of chicks and ducklings first to hatch and for use as carrying boxes for transporting the chicks and ducklings to the brooders or brooding house.

4. Staggered ventilating holes in drop bottom, which break up and diffuse the circulation of air to a beneficial extent.

5. Improved toggle lever thermostat, by the use of which one-fifth of a degree of change in temperature in the hatching chamber will open the heat damper to an extent sufficient to control the heat.

6. Lock-nut at bottom of connecting rod that attaches the thermostat to the regulator arm, which renders it impossible for the nut to fall off or the connecting rod to work loose.

7. Double removable top diaphragms, so constructed that the thermostat (which is properly placed and adjusted at the factory) need not be removed nor interfered with at any time, for any purpose.

8. Fine texture fabric used for upper diaphragm, which permits the heat to pass through more readily into the hatching chamber, resulting in a saving of 15 to 20 per cent of oil.

9. Sloping or "dished" egg-trays, (in the No. 0 and No. 1 Standards and in the Farm Economy and Boy's Choice Incubators) i. e., trays which slope to the center from all points of the tray, thus assisting to equalize the temperature on a level with the top surface of the eggs in these small sized machines. The "inclined" (sloping) trays are retained in the Nos. 2, and 3 Standards.

10. "Split" or double lower diaphragm, which can be removed, washed, aired, replaced and the space between the burlap and felt readily cleaned.

11. Removable wire screen frames which protect the interior of the Nos. 2 and 3 Standard Incubators when the drop bottoms are let down and that can be taken out at will when it is desired to clean these large-sized, deep-bodied machines.

12. Ease of access through open bottoms of Nos. 2 and 3 Standard machines for purpose of cleaning after a hatch, or at end of hatching season.

13. Special top and side ventilators for drying off ducklings, which makes these machines combination hen-egg and duck-egg incubators, rendering unnecessary the purchase of "special duck" incubators.

14. Patented gravity chick guard, which automatically prevents the chicks or ducklings in the nursery drawers from being injured when the drawer covers are pushed into place and the drawers are withdrawn.

15. Adjustable, safety lamp support, instantly attachable without the use of nails, screws, bolts or other fastenings.

16. Guide ring on lamp burner, which renders it impossible to misplace lamp.

17. Black enameled metal cap and metal hand for heater, which protect the asbestos heater jacket and add greatly to the durability and appearance of heater.

18. Removable mica on heater, so that it can be taken out to be cleaned, or can be replaced if broken.

**Absolute and Abundant Proof.**

Month by month we shall present in this series of advertisements absolute and abundant proof of every claim made in the foregoing tabulation. This proof will appear in the form of reports of test hatches as made with the 1906 pattern Standard Cyphers Incubators in all parts of this country and Canada, by foremost fanciers, by the proprietors and managers of the largest and most successful poultry plants in America, and by professors of agriculture and poultry husbandry on the government experiment stations of the United States and Canada.

**The Essex Thermostat for Brooders.**

Cyphers Incubator Company is carefully testing two types of self-regulating outdoor brooders that embody different principles of heating—radiation and "diffusion," upon which applications for patents have been made. In keeping with our practice, neither of these brooders will be placed on the market until we have thoroughly satisfied ourselves that they are practical and trustworthy. Thus far manufacturers of brooders have not been successful in constructing a dependable, self-regulating outdoor brooder. Realizing that outdoor brooders of this description will be judged on their merits as a self-regulating device, we shall not offer these brooders for sale until we have tried them throughout an entire season at our experimental rooms, and on our poultry farm, and even then not until they have been tested for us, in large numbers, by careful poultrymen located in different parts of the country, as we did in the case of our 1906-pattern incubators. The above illustrated thermostat has been invented for use in the Cyphers Company's self-regulating outdoor brooders.

**TWO SAMPLE REPORTS.**

Following are two sample reports, telling of the sensational work performed by this latest triumph of American invention:

**MONARCH INCUBATOR**

JAMES RANKIN, Proprietor.

SOUTH EASTON, MASS., June 21, 1905.

Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—The two incubators you sent me arrived in good shape, and I was surprised at the great improvement over the old style. The deepened egg chamber, the increased ventilation and the nursery drawers for the reception of the ducklings, ARE ALL GREAT IMPROVEMENTS, and though the machines arrived rather late in the season for our work, I was so anxious to test their merits that I set one up and filled it with duck eggs, filling one of our 600-egg Monarchs at the same time. The eggs were from the same yards. The machines were operated in the same room and BY MYSELF. As I wished to make AS FAIR A TEST AS POSSIBLE.

I was a little surprised at the result, as the Cyphers hatched fully as well as the Monarch, an admission I HAVE NEVER BEFORE been willing to make for any other machine ever manufactured. In fact, THE CYPHERS CAME OUT TWO AND ONE-HALF PER CENT AHEAD, with as fine a lot of ducklings as I ever saw.

THE REGULATION IS PERFECTION ITSELF, leaving nothing to be desired, and I congratulate you on putting out an incubator that the public can depend upon to do their work in the best possible manner.

Yours truly,

**WILLIAM COOK & SONS**

Established 1873

Originators of all the Orpingtons.

ENGLISH ADDRESS,  
St. Mary Cray, Kent.SOUTH AFRICAN ADDRESS  
Marshall Square, Johannesburg.

Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Scotch Plains, N. J., July 7, 1905.

Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:—It is with great pleasure that we announce the splendid results obtained from your 1906-pattern Standard Cyphers Incubator (360-egg size).

THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY EGGS were placed in the incubator. Sixty proved infertile at first test and two at second test, leaving 298 good eggs, out of which 282 HEALTHY CHICKS WERE OBTAINED (a 94 2/3 per cent. hatch).

We have never seen a quicker hatch; it was only six hours from the time the first chick was out to the last. The temperature of the incubator DID NOT VARY A DEGREE, being run at 103 degrees ALL THE TIME. The ventilators were closed to start, being gradually opened daily until the 15th day, when they were wide open.

We consider this machine THE FINEST WE HAVE EVER RUN, and shall take pleasure in recommending it to our customers. The hatch came off on June 24, and thus being so late in the season was a severe test for an incubator. THERE IS NO DOUBT IN OUR MIND and we speak from years of experience with many makes of incubators in this and other countries—THAT THE 1906 PATTERN OF THE STANDARD CYPHERS IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD IN BOTH APPEARANCE AND USEFULNESS.

Wishing you every success, Faithfully yours.

**"The Machine of Profitable Hatches."**

If you, reader, are thinking of buying an incubator, and want what the most successful poultrymen have declared to be by odds the most perfect hatching machine invented, kindly send your name and address and we will mail you, postpaid, a copy of our preliminary pamphlet, "A Step Nearer Perfection in the Making of Incubators," and will also list your name to receive a copy of our complete catalogue for 1906, "Poultry Raising Made Easy and Profitable," which will be ready for mailing in December. First come first served. This new catalogue is to consist of 228 pages, 8 by 11 inches, and will contain a large amount of valuable information, including a complete, illustrated description of our full line of manufactures, embracing the following popular Cyphers specialties.

Mealed Alfalfa,  
Short-cut Alfalfa,  
Shredded Alfalfa,  
Chicken Coops,  
Portable Houses,  
Shipping Coops,  
Egg Carriers,  
Food & Water Vessels,  
Bone Cutters,  
Chicken Punches,

Feed Cookers,  
Lice Powder,  
Lice Paint,  
Fumigating Candles,  
Egg Preservative,  
Poultry Remedies,  
Chick Food,  
Laying Food,  
Forcing Food,  
Scratching Food,

Cut Clovers,  
Shredded Clovers,  
Mealed Clovers,  
Food Hoppers,  
Grit and Shell Boxes,  
Leg Bands,  
Egg Testers,  
Wire Fencing,  
Roofing,  
Sprayers.

Write us to-day, addressing nearest office.

**Cyphers Incubator Company,**

Factory and Home Offices, Buffalo, N. Y.

Branch Stores and Warehouses: 23 Barclay St., New York, N. Y.; 26-30 Union St., Boston, Mass.; 310 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Ill.; 329 Sansome St., San Francisco, Calif.; 2325 Broadway, Kansas City, Mo.; 19-25 Finsbury Pavement, London, E. C., England.

freight, and about 1 car by express. With 10 or 12 cars carried over from last week and little indication of improvement in demand, the market continues weak and unsettled on fowls, chickens, and roasters. Buyers are refusing to offer above 10c. for eluter chickens or fowls, but holders asking a shade higher on fowls, and market not established at a late hour. Turkeys continue scarce. Ducks and geese unchanged.

**PHILADELPHIA.**

[From official market report of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange, Nov. 7, 1906.]

EGGS.—There is a good demand for fine new laid stock, the limited receipts of which are kept well cleaned up at firm prices. Supplies are mostly of mixed held and fresh eggs, which sell slowly at irregular figures. Refrigerator eggs are in fair request, and prices are well maintained on fine marks.

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Pa. and nearby, firsts, at mark | 62 1/2 |
| Pa. and nearby, seconds at mark | 62 1/2 |
| Western, extra, at mark         | 62 1/2 |
| Western, firsts, at mark        | 62 1/2 |
| Western, seconds, at mark       | 62 1/2 |
| Southwestern, firsts, at mark   | 62 1/2 |
| Southern, firsts, at mark       | 62 1/2 |
| Refrigerator, extra             | 62 1/2 |
| Refrigerator, firsts            | 62 1/2 |
| Refrigerator seconds            | 17. 29 |

DRESSED POULTRY.—Receipts of fowls are moderate, and there is a good outlet for choice stock, prices of which are well maintained. Supplies, however, are largely of "plumy" or otherwise unattractive stock, which has to be worked out at inside quotations. Fancy roasting and broiling sizes of chickens are firm, with supplies well cleaned up, but overflogs are mostly of medium sized and undesirable stock, which has to be sold at best rates obtainable. Turkeys are in more liberal supply, and again a shade lower, under a light demand and general pressure to sell. Ducks and geese are in small supply, and offerings of desirable stock are kept well cleaned up at steady prices. Squabs continue scarce and firm.

**Fresh Killed Poultry.**

|                                                                        |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Fowls, choice, heavy.....                                              | 13 1/2        |
| Fowls, choice, small and medium.....                                   | 13            |
| Fowls, fair to good.....                                               | 12. 12 1/2    |
| Old roosters.....                                                      | 9. 9 1/2      |
| Young chickens, nearby, fancy.....                                     | 15            |
| Young chickens, choice.....                                            | 15            |
| Young chickens, fair to good.....                                      | 12. 14        |
| Roasting chickens, western, fancy, weighing 4 lbs. and above each..... | 14            |
| Broiling chickens, western, weighing 1 1/2 to 2 lbs. each.....         | 15            |
| Young chickens, weighing 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 lbs. each.....                 | 11. 12 1/2    |
| Young chickens, inferior.....                                          | 7. 10         |
| Turkeys, western, young, choice.....                                   | 18. 20        |
| Turkeys, western, old, choice.....                                     | 13            |
| Turkeys, fair to good.....                                             | 16. 17        |
| Ducks, western, fancy large.....                                       | 10. 12        |
| Ducks, western, fair to good.....                                      | 10. 12        |
| Geese, western, as to quality.....                                     | 9. 10         |
| Squabs, white, a dozen.....                                            | \$2.50 \$2.75 |
| Squabs, dark, a dozen.....                                             | 1.00 1.15     |

LIVE POULTRY.—Receipts of fowls and chickens are moderate, and the market is steady, with a fair demand for desirable stock. The limited receipts of turkeys, ducks, and geese are kept cleaned up at steady prices.

|                                      |         |        |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Fowls, hens, heavy.....              | 10.     | 12     |
| Fowls, hens, small and inferior..... | 10 1/2. | 11 1/2 |
| Old roosters.....                    | 8.      | 8      |
| Spring chickens, as to quality.....  | 10 1/2. | 12     |
| Turkeys.....                         | 16.     | 18     |
| Ducks.....                           | 12.     | 13     |
| Geese.....                           | 13.     | 14     |
| Pigeons, old, 1 pair.....            | 22.     | 25     |
| Pigeons, young, 1 pair.....          | 15.     | 20     |

**Houdan Cup at Springfield.**

The president of the Springfield, Mass., Association, E. L. Smith, offers through the association, a silver cup, value \$25, to any member of the Houdan club showing five birds, either sex, scoring not less than 92 points each. Donor not to compete.

**Maine State Show Premium List Ready.**

The premium list of the Maine State Show, to be held at Portland, is now being distributed. This list is unique in that it gives a history of the association, a sketch of poultry interests in the state of Maine, and personal notes accompanying the pictures of officers. Of course this matter is only supplementary to the usual announcements, which are of more than usual interest. For list address the secretary, A. L. Merrill, Auburn, Me.

**Notice to White Plymouth Rock Breeders.**

The Connecticut state meeting, and annual silver cup competition, will be at the Western Conn. Poultry Assn. show, held at Danbury, Conn., Nov. 29th—Dec. 2d, 1905, in the Armory Hall. To be eligible to compete for cup, members must be in good standing at the date of the closing of entries for this show, November 20th inst. For further particulars address SETH W. GREGORY, Sec'y-Treas., Delavan, Wis., or CHARLES H. WARD, State Sec'y, Bethel, Ct.

**SQUABS**  
Are raised in ONE MONTH; bring big prices. Money-Makers for Poultrymen, Farmers, Women. Send for our FREE BOOK and learn this rich industry. Ask also for new printed matter.  
PLY. ROCK SQUAB CO., 310 Howard St., Melrose, Mass.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you — please them — and help us.

## SHOWS TO OCCUR.

Secretaries of Shows are Requested to Note Errors or Omissions, and Notify Us With Correction of Same.

The name of the city where a show is held printed in full faced type indicates that arrangements for publication of awards in this paper have been made.

### THIS IS OUR OFFER:

To every Show Association accepting the conditions stated below, we will give five (5) full year subscriptions to Farm-Poultry to be awarded as special premiums on poultry as the managers of the show may decide, and we will publish the poultry winnings at their show in full.

#### THE CONDITIONS:

Lists of awards to be sent us promptly after the show on the blanks we provide for that purpose, and to have appended lists of names and addresses of the exhibitors not winning prizes.

Advertisement of FARM-POULTRY, the conspicuous feature of which is the simple statement that awards will be published in FARM-POULTRY, to be inserted in the premium list. Associations generally give our ad. a page or half-page in the premium list, according to size of page and space available, to be inserted in the premium list in good position and with good margin of white space all around it.

#### New England States.

Nov. 21-24. **West Haven, Ct.** David Nichols and D. J. Lambert, Judges. E. J. Crawford, Sec'y.

Nov. 22-25. **Holyoke, Mass.** Felch, Ballou, Shove, Pierce, and Crangle, Judges. Geo. Barnett, Jr., Sec'y.

Nov. 28-30. **Falmouth, Mass.** I. K. Felch, Judge. R. E. Small, Sec'y.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2. **Danbury, Ct.** Nichols, Drevendstedt, and Card, Judges. C. H. Brundage, Sec'y.

Dec. 4-9. **Springfield, Mass.** Felch, Ballou, Shove, Delano, May, Card, Pierce, and Watson, Judges. E. S. Evans, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-6. **Greenfield, Mass.** J. Fred Crangle, Judge. B. Buffum Noyes, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-8. **Portland, Me.** A. C. Hawkins, Lancaster, Mass.; A. C. Smith, Wallham, Mass.; W. B. Atherton, Boston, Mass.; Geo. P. Coffin, Freeport, Me., Judges. A. L. Merrill, Auburn, Me., Sec'y.

Dec. 5-8. **Leominster, Mass.** W. B. Atherton, Randolph; D. P. Shove, Fall River; A. C. Hawkins, Lancaster; and J. H. Woodward, Judges. L. D. Mudgett, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-9. **Providence, R. I.** W. J. Brown, Sec'y.

Dec. 6-8. **Adams, Mass.** D. J. Lambert, Judge. John J. Calcey, Sec'y.

Dec. 12-14. **Milford, Mass.** D. J. Lambert, H. B. May, and C. A. Ballou, Judges. W. H. Pyne, Sec'y.

Dec. 13-15. **Hamden, Conn.** Nichol, Judge. W. W. Gale, Sec'y.

Dec. 13-15. **Beverly, Mass.** Lambert, Watson, Flanders, Atherton, and Edwards, Judges. D. P. Foster, Sec'y.

Dec. 13-16. **Brockton, Mass.** Graves, Atherton, Bryant, Wheeler, Fobes, Benson, Rogers, and Smith, Judges. Geo. S. Hutchinson, Sec'y.

Dec. 14-15. **Easthampton, Mass.** D. J. Lambert, Judge. W. B. Drury, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-21. **Woonsocket, R. I.** E. W. Cook, Slater, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-22. **Winsted, Ct.** Score Card Exhibit. W. R. Graves, Springfield; H. H. Card, Bristol, Conn., Judges. L. C. Capewell, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-22. **Manchester, N. H.** Queen City P. Ass'n. D. J. Lambert, C. A. Ballou, and H. B. May, Judges. F. H. Balch, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-23. **N. H. State P. Ass'n.** Concord, N. H. H. C. Shaw, Milford, Sec'y.

Dec. 21-22. **West Brookfield, Mass.** E. L. Richardson, Sec'y.

Dec. 26-29. **Meriden, Ct.** J. H. Drevendstedt, Judge. W. H. Baldwin, Sec'y.

Dec. 27-29. **Freeport, Me.** D. J. Lambert, Silas Bartlett, J. F. Watson, Judges. Geo. P. Coffin, Sec'y.

Dec. 29-Jan. 1. **Wallingford, Conn.** David A. Nichols, Shelton; Wm. H. Card, Bristol, Judges. Wm. J. Hogan, Sec'y.

Jan. 2-5. **Lynn, Mass.** W. B. Atherton, J. F. Watson, C. S. Flanders, D. P. Shove, Judges. Chas. E. Hunt, Sec'y.

Jan. 9-12. **Middletown, Ct.** W. J. Keitt, Sec'y.

Jan. 9-12. **Peterboro, N. H.** F. G. Field, Sec'y.

Jan. 16-19. **Dalton, Mass.** I. K. Felch, Natick, Judge. W. H. Griswold, Sec'y.

Jan. 16-20. **Boston, Mass.** S. H. Roberts, South Attleboro, Sec'y.

Jan. 17-20. **Stamford, Conn.** R. M. Clark, Sec'y.

Jan. 23-26. **North Adams, Mass.** I. K. Felch, Judge. W. G. Carter, Sec'y.

Jan. 24-26. **Pittsfield, Mass.** R. T. Kent, Sec'y.

Jan. 24-27. **Manchester, N. H.** W. B. Sanford, Sec'y.

Jan. 30-31. **Exeter, N. H.** H. B. May, D. J. Lambert, C. E. Twombly, Judges. John H. Gilmore, Sec'y.

#### Middle States.

Nov. 13-17. **New York.** The Great Eastern Poultry Show. C. E. Gauss, Box 101, Flushing, L. I., Sec'y.

Nov. 20-25. **Gloversville, N. Y.** Stanton, Zimmer, and Drevendstedt, Judges. Jacob H. Blunck, Johnstown, N. Y., Sec'y.

Nov. 27-Dec. 2. **Erie, Pa.** W. C. Pierce, Judge. F. E. Thompson, Sec'y.

Nov. 28-Dec. 1. **Corfu, N. Y.** W. F. Bruce, Judge. Chas. Phelps, Sec'y.

Nov. 29-Dec. 2. **Dover, N. J.** W. H. Bldgood, Sec'y.

Nov. 29-Dec. 2. **Bridgeport, N. J.** B. B. Ware, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-8. **Walden, N. Y.** J. H. Drevendstedt, Judge. H. W. Millsbaugh, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-9. **Wilkesbarre, Pa.** D. T. Miller, Sec'y.

Dec. 5-9. **Paterson, N. J.** W. J. Stanton, Fred Huyler, Judges. Jas. Handford, Sec'y.

Dec. 13-15. **Kingston, N. Y.** J. H. Drevendstedt, Judge. F. E. Miller, Rifton, Sec'y.

Dec. 13-16. **Blandon, Pa.** W. Theo. Wittman, and H. A. Litzenberger, Judges. E. G. Wilkinson, Sec'y.

Dec. 14-16. **Rutherford, N. J.** E. J. Irwin, Sec'y.

Dec. 18-22. **Long Branch, N. J.** E. C. Wainwright, Little Silver, Sec'y.

Dec. 18-23. **Hazleton, Pa.** J. E. Anderson, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-22. **Cuba, N. Y.** Geo. H. Swift, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-23. **Mohr's Store, Pa.** Chas. T. Cornman, Carlisle, Judge. Geo. W. Hatt, Sec'y.

Dec. 27-30. **East Greenville, Pa.** Theo. Wittman, Judge. C. A. Mack, Sec'y.

Jan. 2-6. **New York, N. Y.** Madison Sq. Garden. H. V. Crawford, Montclair, N. J., Sec'y.

Jan. 3-6. **Point Marion, Pa.** H. C. Davis, Sec'y.

Jan. 8-13. **Rochester, N. Y.** Geo. J. Keller, 725 Mt. Hope Ave., Sec'y.

Jan. 18-22. **Auburn, N. Y.** W. J. Stanton, H. J. Quilhot, Geo. W. Webb, Andrew Riddell, L. M. Hallenbeck, and Clarence W. King, Judges. J. H. Scott, Sec'y.

Jan. 22-25. **Salamanca, N. Y.** C. H. Miller, Jr., Sec'y.

Jan. 30-Feb. 3. **Schenectady, N. Y.** I. L. Whitmyre, Sec'y.

Feb. 8-10. **Johnstown, Pa.** J. Y. Bicknell, Judge. J. W. Wirt, Sec'y.

Feb. 19-24. **Pittsburgh, Pa.** McClave, Butterfield, and Brown, Judges. G. C. Sutch, Sec'y.

#### Southern States.

Nov. 23-25. **Warsaw, Ky.** O. A. Bogardus, Sec'y.

Nov. 28-Dec. 30. **Mobile, Ala.** F. J. Marshall, Judge. E. R. Hayssen, Sec'y.

Dec. 6-13. **Charleston, S. C.** J. P. Marshall, S. T. Lea, Judges. T. J. McCarty, Sec'y.

Dec. 12-15. **Birmingham, Ala.** Chas. Barber, Sec'y.

Dec. 12-15. **Monroe, N. C.** Marshall, Judge. T. F. Dillon, Sec'y.

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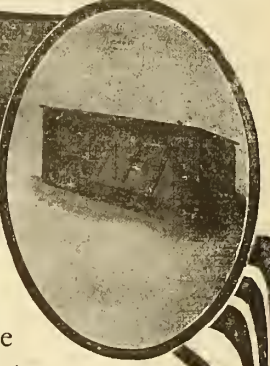
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Dec. 13-15, Bristol, Tenn. D. M. Owen, Judge. R. L. Cannon, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 15-22, Atlanta, Ga. Marshall, and S. B. Johnson, Judges. C. O. Harwell, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 19-22, Frankfort, Ky. Theo. Hewes, Judge. John H. Cassell, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 19-23, Columbia, Tenn. Marshall, Judge. R. S. Hopkins, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 20-22, Clarksburg, W. Va. T. E. Orr, Judge. W. H. Lewis, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Nashville, Tenn. Marshall, and L. Brown, Judges. John A. Murkin, Jr., Sec'y.  
 Jan. 3-6, Ripley, W. Va. Phil Fiel, Judge. H. W. Deem, Pres.  
 Jan. 8-12, Augusta, Ga. J. W. Killingsworth, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 10-13, Chattanooga, Tenn. Marshall, Judge. M. F. Maury, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 16-20, Charlotte, N. C. H. B. Schwab, Judge. W. B. Alexander, Sec'y.

#### Near West States.

Nov. 16-18, Warsaw, Ill. W. S. Russell, Judge. Paul Heise, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 20-22, Newton Falls, Ohio. Ira C. Keller, Judge. C. H. Herber, Sec'y-treas.  
 Nov. 27-Dec. 2, Sheboygan, Wis. Jas. Tucker, Concord, Mich., Judge. A. H. McIntire, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 1, Moline, Ill. J. M. Rapp, Judge. Oscar Hogberg, 1404 14th St., Sec'y.  
 Nov. 29-Dec. 2, Prairie Depot, Ohio. C. W. Collinge, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 29-Dec. 5, Delta, Ohio. Ira C. Keller, Judge. M. B. Hattou, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 5-7, Jackson, Mich. C. W. Kroosz, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 5-8, Kalamazoo, Mich. Ira C. Keller, Judge. Merle Hearick, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 5-9, Youngstown, O. T. E. Orr, Judge. C. E. Watwood, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 6-8, Owosso, Mich. Jas. Tucker, Judge. Bert Lovett, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 6-9, Middletown, Ohio. J. A. Hornung and Chas. Simpson, Judges. C. E. Colwell, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Dwight, Ill. Ben. Meyers, Judge. H. A. Wood, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Oconomowoc, Wis. Frank Heck, Judge. Dr. H. J. Larson, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Warren, Ill. F. H. Shellabarger, Judge. T. J. Rountree, Nora, Ill., Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Spring, Ohio. Ira C. Keller, Judge. M. J. Stevens, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Fort Wayne, Ind. T. E. Orr, W. E. Ellison, Geo. Ewald, and D. S. Mackie, Judges. P. A. Heller, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-15, Quincy, Mich. A. L. Massey, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-15, Flint, Mich. F. P. Wildman, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-16, Chicago Heights, Ill. O. P. Greer, Judge. Harry Neath, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-16, Ottawa, Ill. C. O. Deist, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 13-16, Holland, Mich. Chas. McClave, New London, Ohio, Judge. L. S. Sprietsma, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 14-16, Vevay, Ind. Theo. Hewes, Judge. Ernest Dangle, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 18-23, Sullivan, Ind. H. E. Speake, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 18-23, Haubstadt, Ind. D. T. MacClement, Evansville, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 19-23, Catlin, Ill. C. F. Byerly, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-30, Lansing, Mich. F. W. Travis, Judge. J. A. Turner, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-31, Oregon, Ill. W. C. Pierce, Judge. L. H. Vantine, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-31, Ravenna, Ohio. Ben. Meyers, Judge. Harry Beck, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 27-29, Marietta, Ohio. H. A. Emmel, Mars, Pa., Judge. A. L. Spencer, Parkersburg, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 27-29, East Palestine, Ohio. C. F. Early, and Phil Fiel, Judges. Wm. Haught, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Hamilton, Ohio. I. K. Felch, Judge. A. W. C. Hoffman, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Eaton, Ill. Theo. Hewes, Judge. O. H. Smith, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Peoria, Ill. Frank Heck, W. S. Russell, Theo. Hewes, Judges. O. L. McCord, Danville, Ill., Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Elgin, Ill. Chas. McClave, London, Ont., Judge. M. E. Meredith, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Goshen, Ind. J. A. Zollinger, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Montpelier, Ind. L. Howard, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6, Danville, Ill. O. L. McCord, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 2-6, Leipsic, Ohio. T. E. Orr, Judge. H. S. Euck, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 2-6, Olney, Ill. D. T. Heimlich, Judge. E. E. Dalton, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 2-6, Rochelle, Ill. Chas. McClave, Judge. Geo. W. Guest, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 2-8, Adrian, Mich. Jas. A. Tucker, Concord, Mich., J. W. Mullinix, Toledo, Ohio, Judges. J. E. Holyoke, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 3-6, Cambridge, O. D. J. Lambert, Judge. Jas. C. Sarchet, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 3-8, Lima, O. Ed. Helser, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 4-6, Zion City, Ill. Theo. Hewes, Judge. C. L. Greer, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 6-12, Detroit, Mich. Frank Heck, Jas. A. Tucker, Judges. John R. Wood, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-12, Ann Arbor, Mich. Theo. Hewes, and Jas. Tucker, Judges. Geo. R. Cooper, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-12, Mattoon, Ill. T. M. Campbell, Judge. C. L. Carney, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-13, Morgan Park, Ill. C. A. Damon, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-13, Evansville, Ind. W. C. Pierce, Indianapolis: R. H. Young, Louisville, Ky., Judges. H. J. Reimer, 113 Heinlein Ave., Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-13, Polo, Ill. A. B. Shaner, Judge. J. A. Davison, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-13, Monmouth, Ill. Chas. McClave, Judge. S. L. Hamilton, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-14, Chilton, Wis. Ben. S. Meyers, Judge. A. Stransky, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-12, Oak Harbor, O. J. A. Yant, and J. W. Mullinix, Judges. L. L. Carstensen, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-13, Naperville, Ill. D. J. Lambert, Judge. E. M. Schwartz, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-13, Lake Geneva, Wis. Frank Heck, Judge. F. M. Higgins, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-13, Findlay, Ohio. Phil Fiel, Judge. Clark Parker, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 10-13, Newcomerstown, Ohio. Theo. Hewes, Judge. F. D. Mulvaue, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 10-13, Tiffin, Ohio. Chas. McClave, Judge. V. Crabtree, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 10-15, Painesville, Ohio. Thos. F. Rigg, Judge. F. G. Johnson, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 15-20, Martinsville, Ind. Ben. Meyers, Crawfordsville, Judge. C. Abbott, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 15-20, Portland, Ind. S. B. Lane, Judge. Chas. McFarland, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 15-20, Oskosh, Wis. Chas. McClave, Judge. Frank W. Radford, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 15-20, Delavan, Wis. Jas. A. Tucker and S. B. Johnson, Judges. W. E. Peffer, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 15-20, Rockford, Ill. Frank Heck, Judge. Chas. M. Gilbert, Sec'y.

Jan. 16-20, Cincinnati, Ohio. T. F. Rigg, Theo. Hewes, T. L. Orr, F. C. Shepard, Judges. Thos. J. Foy, T. O. box 122, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 22-26, LaCrosse, Wis. Theo. Hewes, Judge. H. J. Hahn, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 22-27, Chicago, Ill. Fred L. Kimmey, Room, 500, 525 Dearborn St., Sec'y.  
 Jan. 22-28, Milwaukee, Wis. C. G. Loeber, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 25-29, Mooresville, Ind. Chas. McClave, Judge. C. L. Hallam, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 26-Feb. 3, Kankakee, Ill. Sharpe Butterfield, Windsor, Ont., Judge. E. P. Vining, Hospital, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 29-Feb. 3, Cleveland, O. W. R. Hinz, Orr, Hewes, McClave, Rigg, Sites, and Donkin, Judges. F. L. Grueth, 44 Ocean St., Sec'y.  
 Jan. 31-Feb. 3, Hudson, Mich. Jas. A. Tucker, J. W. Mullinix, H. A. Boies, Judges. L. S. Brown, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 31-Feb. 5, Toledo, O. Chas. McClave, Theo. Hewes, Ben. Meyers, F. C. Shepard, W. E. Standfield, and J. W. Mullinix, Judges. Alva T. Baker, Sec'y.  
 Feb. 4-10, Indianapolis, Ind. Jas. A. Tucker, Geo. Burkott, Ben. Meyers, C. L. McCord, S. B. Lane, Wesley Lemus, W. C. Pierce, and Theo. Hewes, Judges. E. A. Pierce, Sec'y.

Feb. 5-11, Shelby, Ohio. I. Judge. W. O. Smith, Sec'y.  
 Feb. 14-19, Norwalk, Ohio. C. L. McClave, Judge. T. P. Kellogg, Sec'y.

#### Central West States.

Nov. 12-19, Houston, Texas. Henry S. Fox, Jr., Sec'y.  
 Nov. 21-24, Muscatine, Iowa. Ben. S. Meyers, Judge. F. M. Ziegler, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 22-25, Carthage, Mo. C. H. Rhodes, Judge. C. A. Emry, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 1, Boonville, Mo. D. T. Heimlich, Judge. Chas. G. Miller, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 2, Great Bend, Kans. T. W. Southard, Judge. Rev. S. Olliger, Sec'y.  
 Nov. 28-Dec. 2, Mason City, Iowa. W. S. Russell, Ottumwa, Iowa, Judge. M. V. Bickel, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 4-8, Marshalltown, Iowa. Theo. Hewes, Judge. H. C. Hansen, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 5-8, Palmyra, Mo. C. H. Rhodes, Judge. Miss Maud Bloomer, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 6-8, Sand Creek, Okla. M. S. Fite, Judge. C. L. Bickerdike, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 6-9, Stewartville, Minn. Geo. Holden, Judge. L. G. Tubbs, Sec'y.

Dec. 10-15, Waverly, Iowa. B. L. Burbank, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-15, Davenport, Iowa. J. P. Voss, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 11-16, Rochester, Minn. Geo. Holden, Judge. L. E. Nietz, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-14, Valley, Nebr. J. L. Todd, Judge. F. F. DeYore, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-16, Kirksville, Mo. Theo. Hewes, C. Rhodes, C. A. Emry, Judges. H. P. Mason, Fayette, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-16, Waverly, Iowa. B. L. Burbank, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 13-16, Corsicana, Tex. H. B. Sayave, R. A. Davis, Judges. C. E. Papworth, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 18-22, Parsons, Kans. C. A. Emry, Adam Thompson, Judges. A. E. Baker, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 18-22, Watertown, S. D. Thos. Rigg, Judge. Rose E. Sanford, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 18-23, Columbus, Neb. C. H. Rhodes, Judge. W. H. Swartsley, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 19-23, Ponca City, O. T. M. S. Fite, Judge. J. Flem Smith, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 21-23, Wakita, Okla. C. A. Emry, Judge. E. M. Garrett, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 23-30, Mankato, Minn. Holden, Judge. J. W. Kallmaun, Sec'y.

## Why You Can Use Purina Poultry Feeds More Profitably than You Can Mix Your Own Rations

*A Commonsense, Practical, Heart-to-Heart Talk on the Feed Question.  
 To the Poultryman Who is Earnestly Looking for Profitable Improvement.*

OF COURSE the average poultryman can make a fairly satisfactory feed, and succeed in getting fair average results. But, the "Velvet" in poultry culture lies in that Extra Dozen or so of Eggs at the Right Season, which you could get with a Perfect Ration.

Now, Concerning Mixing Your Own Rations. Let's see if this really is profitable:

Suppose you leave out one grain in your proposed formula, which is inconvenient, too expensive—you spoil that formula—Unbalance the Ration—make it "too fat or too lean"—don't you?

And it is next to impossible for you to secure All the different grains and seeds you should have, because many of them are not regularly on the market. Yet they are absolutely essential to the perfectly balanced ration. These uncommon grains and seeds are obtained specially for us, under contract.

And there's a wide difference in the Quality and Analysis of different grains of the same kind, too.

Nowadays it's hard to tell sound, sweet grain from the other kind. It takes an Expert Grain Inspector. Take corn, for instance, that is shipped too early in a wet season—it Heats in transit—sometimes has to be dug out of the car with a pick; yet this same corn may be "turned over," dried out, and passed off as marketable. And Wheat—how much "salvage" wheat do you suppose is palmed off on the chickenmen of this country? Soaked and Soured wheat, reclaimed from sunken schooners. Is it any Wonder that fowls have bowel troubles?

And then the "Elevator Wheat Screenings"—the Leavings at the bottom of the bins, full of cockle seed, burned, shrunken grains—"chicken wheat," they call it. Chicken wheat indeed! And the poultryman wonders why his hens don't lay 40-cent eggs in Winter.

And then the Mixing. How can you gauge the exact proportions? Do you Weigh in each ingredient, at every feed? And can you mix it Thoroughly, By Hand—so that each hen will be fed the same? And suppose you could—can you depend on your Help to take that much pains?

Machinery can mix feed better and cheaper, by the Ton, than your Hands can do it by the Quart—surely!

And then the Buying. Has the average poultryman the right facilities? Has he the capital and storage room to Buy in Quantities—from carloads to hundred-ton lots—at the Right Time to take advantage of favorable markets? He depends on the dealer—takes what he gives him—and pays his price. Isn't that the usual way?

NOW—Are not these Sound Reasons Why you should save all the bother, time, work, worry and uncertainty of buying and mixing, if you can get Better results at Less cost?

Purina Poultry Feeds are not New Fads—they have been tested by practical experience with thousands of feeders.

#### What Purina Poultry Feeds Are

Clean, Sound, Sweet Grains and Seeds—the best known ingredients of established poultry-feeding value. No dust, no dirt, no adulteration, no "offal." We are in the heart of an immense grain-raising section—we have an Unlimited Market to Select From.

Only through Our Immense Buying and Milling Facilities can we produce these feeds at the Reasonable Prices we offer.

Our Expensive Machinery and Expert Grain Inspection enable us to give you the Pure, Clean Material which you cannot be sure of getting when you buy ordinary grains and mixtures.

Our Testing Department enables us to Analyze our grains and seeds Before they go into the feed—and Afterwards. Each ingredient is automatically Weighed in—no chance—no guess work—and the combination is Evenly Milled and Mixed by Machinery. Absolute uniformity must result.

#### Purina Alfalfa Meal

Alfalfa Meal is rapidly taking the place of clover meal, as a green feed, and is far more nutritious, containing twice as much Protein. It has a rich green color that Looks as Succulent and Appetizing as it Really Is.

But, the ordinary commercial alfalfa meals are expensive—too much bulky fibre—the coarse stems and stalks ground up. We have built two mills and equipped them at heavy expense with special machinery, to grind Just the Tender, Succulent Tops and Tendrils. We have the Most Successful Mills in the World for this Purpose. Our alfalfa meal is cleaner, purer, more succulent, more appetizing—and more economical because it contains More Nutrition to the Pound. And then, in our

#### Purina Mash

(Guaranteed Analysis 17% Protein, 5% Fat), you have all the advantages of this Green Feed—in combination with a Complete Grain Ration, and a right amount of choicest Beef Scraps, all ready ground and mixed, in correct proportion for a perfectly balanced Mash ration—without any fuss or bother on your part. Just mix with water, and feed. Right nutritive ratio for best all round results in making

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Mash  
to make hens lay

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Meal—  
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is where you decide.

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grain ration and litter  
feed.

PURINA  
Baby Chick  
Feed—

Saves Chicks. Rapid,  
even, healthy develop-  
ment of bone, flesh and  
feather.

Dec. 26-29. Fremont, Neb. J. L. Todd, Atlantic, Iowa, Judge. W. H. Haven, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-30. Gallatin, Mo. F. M. Parker, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-30. Beatrice, Neb. H. C. White, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-30. Duluth, Minn. Theo. Hewes, Judge. H. E. Edmunds, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 26-31. Blackwell, Okla. M. S. Fite, Judge. Geo. M. Carson, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 1-6. Salina, Kans. J. J. Atherton, Judge. Benj. A. Bearnes, R. D. 6, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-12. Sioux Falls, S. D. D. Holden, Judge. Stacy S. Metcalf, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-13. Topeka, Kans. Theo. Owen, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-12. Earlham, Iowa. F. Bilderback, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-13. Enid, Okla. J. W. Hitecock, Judge. I. W. Scherlich, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 9-14. Dallas, Tex. Brown, Kuebel, and Purdy, Judges.  
 Jan. 15-20. Kansas City, Mo. Fairchild, Fite, Wale, Judges. P. H. DePree, Sec'y.

#### Far West States.

Nov. 27-Dec. 2. San Francisco, Cal. Geo. D. Holder, T. E. Orr, Geo. H. Burgett, Henry Berrar, Judges. J. C. Williams, 25 New Montgomery St., Sec'y.  
 Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Corvallis, Ore. C. G. Hinds, Alameda, Calif., Judge. Rob. Johnson, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 6-9. Alameda, Calif. C. G. Hinds and Elmer Dixon, Judges. C. A. Tracy, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 12-13. Salem, Ore. F. A. Welch, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 13-16. Fresno, Calif. Geo. Andrews, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 13-16. San Diego, Calif. Herbert M. Stiles, S'y.  
 Dec. 19-22. Albany, Ore. Claud W. Vunk, Sec'y.

Dec. 19-23. Seattle, Wash. Chas. McAllister, Sec'y.  
 Dec. 27-Jan. 1. Tacoma, Wash. Mrs. C. A. Pratt, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 8-15. Los Angeles, Calif. Mrs. O. H. Burbridge, Sec'y.  
 Jan. 17-20. Salt Lake City, Utah. F. H. Shellabarger, Judge. Thos. J. Fauling, 1009 Lincoln Ave., Sec'y.  
 Feb. 5-10. Walla Walla, Wash. Chas. McClave, Judge. J. A. Levy, Sec'y.

#### Canada.

Nov. 20-23. Seaford, Ont. J. A. Daly, Sec'y.

#### Montreal Show.

Oct. 16-21, 1905.

Addresses of Montreal exhibitors are not given. Other addresses given with first mention of name. Towns not otherwise designated are in P. Q.

**LIGHT BRAHMAS.**—Rev. S. T. Bartlett, Colborne, Ont., 1 ck; 2 hen. A. C. Miller, Brockville, Ont., 2 ck; 3 hen; 2 s. chl. Dr. Pritchard, North Wakefield, 2 hen. Chas. LaRose, Cornwall, Ont., 4 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2 pul.

**DARK BRAHMAS.**—W. B. Nantel, St. Jerome, 1 ck; 1 pul. LaRose, 2 pul.

**BUFF COCHINS.**—Nantel, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. LaRose, 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul.

**BLACK AND WHITE COCHINS.**—All to LaRose.

**BLACK LANGSHANS.**—Hintonburg P. Yards, Hintonburg, Ont., 1 ck; 3 hen. J. H. Warrington, Cornwall, Ont., 2 ck; 2 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. E. R. Frith, Maxville, Ont., 3 ck; 4 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul. W. H. Reed, Klugston, Ont., 1 hen.

**COLOR DORINGS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. Warrington, 2 ck; 1 hen; 1 pul.

**SILVER GRAY DORINGS.**—F. C. McGinnis, Ilerville, 1 ck; 3 hen; 5 chl. Warrington, 2 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck. Reid, 3 ck; 2 hen; 4 chl. Bartlett, 1, 3 chl.

**WHITE DORINGS.**—All to Warrington.

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**—Ottawa P. Yards, Ottawa, Ont., 1 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 1, 5 pul. Hintonburg P. Yards, 2 ck; 3 hen; 3 chl. A. B. Stalker, Lacbaine, 3 ck. H. Henderson, Dunham, 4 ck; 1 hen. J. E. Fidler, Brockville, Ont., 4 hen; 4, 5 chl. A. O. Hillhouse, Bondville, 5 hen; 3, 4 pul. A. F. Sanborn, So. Roxton, 1 ck.

**BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**—J. A. Cockers, Cornwall, Ont., 1 ck; 2 hen; 1 pul. Hintonburg P. Yards, 2 ck; 1 hen. J. R. Deschambault, Terrebonne, 3 hen. Ottawa P. Yards, 4 hen; 2, 3, 4 chl; 2, 3 pul. Rev. J. H. Bell, Sutton, 1 ck; 4, 5 pul.

**WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**—A. Thompson, Allans Corners, 1 ck; 1 chl; 4 pul. McGinnis, 2, 5 chl; 1 hen. Sanborn, 3 ck; 2, 5 hen; 4 chl. W. Bromby, Youville, 4 ck; 3 hen; 3 ck; 3 pul. M. Radley, Outremont, 4 hen; 2, 5 chl; 1, 2, 5 pul.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.**—Wright Bros., Brockville, Ont., 1, 3 ck; 2 hen; 1, 2, 3 chl; 1, 2, 3 pul. Hillhouse, 2 ck; 4 hen; 4 chl; 4 pul. McGinnis, 1, 3 hen. Home-wood Farm, Graham, 5 hen; 5 pul. Deschambault, 5 chl.

**SILVER WYANDOTTES.**—Cokers, 1 ck; 5 hen; 3, 4 pul. McGinnis, 2 ck; 3, 4 hen. Hintonburg P. Yards, 3 ck; 1 hen; 1, 3 chl; 1, 2, 5 pul. Rev. J. H. Bell, Sutton, 4 ck. Fred J. Blake, Almonte, Ont., 2 hen; 2 ck.

**BUFF WYANDOTTES.**—Bartlett, 1, 2, 3 ck; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2, 3 pul. Bell, 4 ck. McGinnis, 5 ck; 2 ck; 4 pul.

**GOLDEN WYANDOTTES.**—Chas. H. Mallhot, Ilerville, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 3 pul. Blake, 2 ck; 3 hen; 2, 3 chl; 1, 2 pul. Bell, 2 hen.

**BLACK WYANDOTTES.**—McGinnis, 1 ck; 1, 4 hen. Ottawa P. Yards, 2 hen. W. H. Reid, Kingston, Ont., 3 hen.

**PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTES.**—L. L. Rodler, 1 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1 ck. McGinnis, 3 hen; 2 ck.

**BLACK SPANISH.**—Warrington, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. McGinnis, 2 ck; 2 hen; 3 ck; 3 pul. Nantel, 2 ck; 2 pul.

**ANCONAS.**—All to C. J. Daniels, Toronto, Ont.

**ANDALUSIANS.**—LaRose, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 pul. E. Frith, Maxville, Ont., 3 pul.

**S. C. BLACK MINORCAS.**—Hintonburg P. Yards, 1 ck; 4, 5 hen; 2 ck; 5 pul. Frith, 2 ck; 3 hen; 1 ck; 3, 4 pul. Ottawa P. Yards, 3 ck; 4 chl; 1, 2 hen; 1, 2 pul. Lewis Bros., Montreal West, 3, 4, 5 chl.

**WHITE MINORCAS.**—All to W. M. Osborne, Brockville, Ont.

**BLACK LEGHORNS.**—All to Osborne.

**S. C. BROWN LEGHORNS.**—McGinnis, 1 ck; 4 hen; 3 ck. Wm. J. Muldoon, Brockville, Ont., 2 ck; 3 hen; 1, 2 pul. H. Henderson, Dunham, 1, 2 hen; 3, 4 pul.

**TAYLOR BROS., DEWITTVILLE, 1 ck; 5 pul. Lewis Bros., Montreal West, 2 ck.**

**S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS.**—Thos. Crouch, Billings Bridge, Ont., 1, 2, 3 ck; 1 hen; 4 chl; 1, 2, 4 pul. P. E. Aird, Montreal Annex, 4 ck; 2, 5 chl. Dr. J. H. Bastien, Rigaud, 1 ck; 3 pul. J. Allan, Scotch Line, Ont., 3 ck; 5 pul.

**S. C. BUFF LEGHORNS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2, 3 hen. Allan, 1 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2, 4 pul. McGinnis, 2 ck; 3 pul.

**WHITE CRESTED BLACK POLISH.**—Bastien, 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. Nantel, 2 ck; 1 pul.

**BEARDED GOLDEN POLISH.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 1, 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. Warrington, 1 ck.

**BEARDED SILVER POLISH.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. McGinnis, 2 ck; 3 hen. Nantel, 3 ck; 4 hen. Warrington, 2 hen; 1 ck.

**BEARDED WHITE POLISH.**—Warrington, 1 ck. Bastien, 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul.

**BUFF LACED POLISH.**—All to Warrington.

**GOLDEN POLISH.**—All to Bastien.

**WHITE POLISH.**—All to Bastien.

**RED CAPS.**—Daniels, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1, 2 ck. Warrington, 2 ck; 2 hen.

**S. C. RHODE ISLAND REDS.**—S. W. D. Frith, Winchester, Ont., 1 ck. E. C. McCormiskey, Granby, 2 ck. Frank Pitts, Ea. Sherbrooke, 3 ck. Norman B. Merrick, St. Albans, Vt., 4 ck. Ottawa P. Yards, 5 ck.

**S. C. RHODE ISLAND REDS.**—Ottawa P. Yards, 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 hen; 3, 4 chl; 1, 4 pul. Hillhouse, 1, 2 ck; 2 pul. S. Frith, 3 pul.

**HOUDANS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2, 3 hen; 1 pul. Bastien, 1 hen; 2 ck; 4 pul. L. L. Rodler, 1 ck; 2, 3 pul.

**LA FLECHE.**—All to Warrington.

**FAVEROLLES.**—All to Rodler.

**JAVAS.**—Daniels, 1 ck. Reid, 2, 3 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2 pul.

**BLACK HAMBURG.**—McGinnis, 1 ck; 2 hen; 4 ck; 3 pul. Bastien, 3 ck; 3 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul. Reid, 2 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. LaRose, 3 chl.

**SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. LaRose, 1 pul.

**SILVER PENCILED HAMBURG.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 1, 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. LaRose, 1 ck; 2 pul.

**GOLDEN SPANGLED HAMBURG.**—Bastien, 1, 2 hen. Reid, 1 ck; 1 pul.

**RED PYLE GAMES.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2 hen. Bastien, 2 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul.

**RED PYLE GAMES.**—Reid, 1 ck. E. Frith, 2 ck; 3 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. LaRose, 3 ck. Miss Alice Mace, Montreal Annex, 1, 2 hen; 2, 3 chl; 1, 3 pul.

**B. B. RED GAMES.**—Reid, 1 hen. Bastien, 2 hen; 1 pul.

**GOLDEN DUCKWING GAMES.**—All to Bastien.

**WHITE INDIAN GAMES.**—All to Thompson.

**CORNISH INDIAN GAMES.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 4 hen; 1 ck. Pritchard, 2 ck; 2 hen; 3, 4 chl; 1, 4 pul. LaRose, 3 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck. B. Montfort, Montreal So., 3 hen; 3 pul.

**SUMATRAN.**—Daniels, 1 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. Warrington, 2 ck; 2 hen. Reid, 3 ck; 3 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul.

**B. B. RED GAME BANTAMS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2, 3 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2 pul. Bastien, 2, 3 ck; 1 hen; 3 pul.

**BROWN RED GAME BANTAMS.**—Bastien, 1 ck; 1 hen. Reid, 2 ck; 2, 3 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul.

**GOLDEN DUCKWING GAME BANTAMS.**—All to Reid.

**RED GAME BANTAMS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. Bastien, 2 ck; 1 hen.

**A. O. V. GAME BANTAMS.**—Daniels, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. Merrick, 2, 3 hen. Warrington, 2 ck; 1 pul.

**BUFF COCHIN BANTAMS.**—Bartlett, 1 ck; 1 hen. Mallhot, 2 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul.

**WHITE COCHIN BANTAMS.**—LaRose, 1 ck; 1 pul. Reid, 2 ck; 1 hen. Merrick, 3 ck; 2 hen. Mallhot, 3 hen; 2 pul.

**TIGHT BRAHMA BANTAMS.**—Arthur G. Joyce, Outremont, 1 hen; 1, 3 chl; 1, 3 pul. M. Radley, 2 ck; 2 pul.

**GOLDEN SEBRIGHT BANTAMS.**—Joyce, 1 ck; 3 hen. LaRose, 2 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. Reid, 3 ck; 2 hen. Mallhot, 2 ck; 1 pul.

**SILVER SEBRIGHT BANTAMS.**—Mallhot, 1 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. Reid, 1, 3 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul.

**BLACK JAPANESE BANTAMS.**—All to Reid.

**R. C. BANTAMS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. Ottawa P. Yards, 2 ck. Bastien, 3 ck; 3 hen. LaRose, 2 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul.

**A. O. V. BANTAMS.**—Reid, 1 ck; 2 hen. LaRose, 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul.

**BUFF ORPINGTON BANTAMS.**—Aird, 1, 2 ck; 3, 4, 5 hen; 1 ck; 1, 2, 3, 5 pul. Dr. A. Boultier, Toronto, Ont., 1 hen; 4 ck. Bromby, 2 hen; 2 ck. Daniels, 3 chl. S. Frith, 5 chl; 4 pul.

**WHITE ORPINGTON BANTAMS.**—S. Frith, 1 ck; 4 hen; 2 ck; 4, 5 pul. P. Chlneck, Napanee, Ont., 1, 2, 3 hen; 1, 3 chl; 1, 2, 3 pul.

**A. O. V. ORPINGTON BANTAMS.**—Daniels, 1, 2 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. S. Frith, 1 hen; 1, 3 chl; 2, 3, 5 pul. Aird, 3 hen. LaRose, 4 chl; 3 pul.

**BROWN TURKEYS.**—Thompson, 1, 2, 3 ck; 2, 3 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. E. Frith, 4 ck. Taylor Bros., 1 hen; 2, 4 chl; 3, 4 pul. Reid, 4 hen; 3 chl; 2 pul. A. B. Stalker, Lacbaine, 5 chl.

**WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS.**—Thompson, 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1, 2 ck; 1 pul.

**A. O. V. TURKEYS.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1, 3 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. Reid, 2 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul.

**TOULOUSE GESE.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1 hen; 4 chl; 3, 4 pul. Reid, 2 ck; 2 hen. P. H. Saure, Verdun, 3 ck; 1, 2, 3 chl; 2 pul. E. Frith, 3 hen; 1 pul. Taylor Bros., 4 hen.

**EMBEDD GESE.**—Thompson, 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 hen; 3, 4 chl; 1, 3, 4 pul. Reid, 3 ck; 4 hen. Taylor Bros., 3 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul.

**CHINA GESE.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 1 pul. Taylor Bros., 2 ck; 2, 3 chl; 1 pul.

**A. O. V. GESE.**—Reid, 1 ck; 1 hen. Thompson, 2, 3 ck; 3, 3 hen; 1, 2 ck; 1, 2 pul.

**PEKIN DUCKS.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1, 2 hen; 1, 2 ck; 1, 3 pul. Sanborn, 2 ck. Taylor Bros., 3 ck; 3 chl. Aird, 3 hen. L. L. Rodler, 3 pul.

**AYLESBURY DUCKS.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck; 2 pul. Reid, 1 ck; 1 pul.

**ROUEN DUCKS.**—Thompson, 1 ck; 1 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. Reid, 1 ck; 2 pul.

**CAYUGA DUCKS.**—Warrington, 1 ck; 2 hen; 2 ck; 1 pul. Thompson, 2 ck; 1 hen; 1 ck; 2 pul. Reid, 3 chl; 3 pul.

**MUSCOVY DUCKS.**—All to Thompson.

**A. O. V. DUCKS.**—All to Thompson.

eggs and choice, juicy, table fowls. Purina Mash Will Go Farther than any other mash you can buy or make—on account of its bulk and high percentage of nutrition to the pound. It is a splendid feed to use when hens are moulting.

### Purina Scratch Feed

(Guaranteed Analysis 11% Protein, 3.6% Fat), is the result of our determined effort to produce the Standard Dry Grain Ration and Litter Feed of the World. Made from a dozen varieties of choice grains and seeds, each selected to perform a special function in keeping hens in perfect physical and laying condition. Ground coarse enough to give the gizzard work—fine enough to make the hen work to find it. Mixed in proper proportions to make a perfectly balanced ration. It is made right—without regard to cost or profit. All the siftings, dirty screenings, meal and fine dusty particles are taken out, consequently there is No Waste when this feed is given to your chickens.

### Purina Fattening Feed

A careful, intelligent combination of the best grain material known for finishing off market fowls quickly and profitably—ground to a meal. It can either be mixed with sufficient water for a crumbly mash, or made into a gruel for use in the stuffing machine.

### Purina Chick Feed

(Guaranteed Analysis 11% Protein, 3.6% Fat). We are especially proud of this "down-to-the-minute" production. It has cost us much time and labor to satisfy our own high standard of perfection—knowing, as we do, the delicate, tender nature of the little baby chicks, and the great and wasteful percentage of mortality under the average system of feeding. No "sloppy" mash mistakes with resulting bowel trouble—no lean nervous chicks—no overfat, overheated chicks with resulting leg weakness—with the Purina feed. Our dry feed system, relieves you of all responsibility of delicate balancing and careful mixing. You can feed it with confidence, knowing that it contains the purest and the most nutritious grains and seeds, more than a dozen kinds, cleaned and screened with greatest care—rightly balanced for Quick and Hearty growth, and uni-

formly mixed so that there is absolutely no element of chance in your feed system. Contains no grit—you can best feed that separately. We do not charge you "grain prices for grit." Ground to the right degree of fineness—just suited to the needs of the little ones. Right nutritive ratio for rapid even healthy development of bone, flesh and feather. You will find Purina Chick Feed the Best Investment You Ever Made for the first ten weeks' feeding.

### Not Condimental or Medical

Purina Feeds are not condimental—not fed with a spoon. They are free from medicine or drugs of any kind.

Boyer says: "good feed is the best medicine." Do not "dope" all of your fowls with a daily diet of pepper, drugs and spices, for the sake of one sick hen. Set her apart and treat her separately. But, under normal conditions, and with the right feeding system—the Purina System—you will have little or No Need of Medicine.

### No Grit

We absolutely do not put any grit in our feeds. We do not ask our customers to pay feed prices for grit.

You will find our book: THE PURINA STANDARD POULTRY FEEDER a safe guide in feeding matters, giving you a Safe Anchorage—a Reliable Basis to work on—and many healthful hints—of special value to beginners—and of much use to the more experienced.

### Our Liberal Quick Action Free Trial Offer

Now, either the Purina Poultry Feeds have the superior merits we claim—or they haven't. WE know they have. But we don't expect you to be convinced until you try them. That's the common-sense way—the only fair way. If Purina Feed will Save Your Little Chicks—Increase your Egg Production—make Prime Meat in your Market Fowls—Help Your Hens Through the Moulting Season—Save You Time, Work, Worry and Money—then you are losing every day you put off trying them—Isn't that a fact? Therefore, it's to your interest, as well as ours, that we get right down to business without delay, and we are going to Make It Easy For Us To Get Together Now. You Can Try Purina Poultry Feeds Without Risking a Cent of Expense. Here's Our Plan:

The 100-lb. bag price, delivered, of Purina Feeds is as follows:

Purina Mash, \$2.50  
 Purina Scratch Feed, \$2.00  
 Purina Fattening Feed, \$2.00  
 Purina Baby Chick Feed, \$2.50  
 Alfalfa Meal, (Purina), \$2.00

(They are also put up in 40-lb. bags for the convenience of smaller buyers.)

Now if you will send us \$4.00 with your trial order on the coupon herewith—for 40 pounds each of our several feeds—or any other combination you may wish, we will ship it to you immediately—freight prepaid to your station, (anywhere East of the Rockies) and then—

### A FAIR OFFER

You try the feeds in good faith, feeding according to directions—using the feed Down To The Line printed on the bag, as indicated in cut, and then—

If in 30 days after receipt of the feeds you are not Fully Satisfied—More Than Pleased—with Purina Feeds and the Results—just sew up the bags, send them right back to the freight station—and Notify Us. We will immediately refund your entire \$4.00. Without a Murmur, and Thank You for your pains in making the experiment.

The Purina Feeds that you have thus used will be Our Loss—and you will not be out a single cent of expense. Now, can we make a fairer proposition than that?

Remember, the reputation of the Purina Mills is back of this liberal offer—this paper vouches for our responsibility—or it would not print our ad. This Introductory Offer is Only Good For 30 Days. We reserve the privilege of withdrawing it in that time if we find our manufacturing facilities too heavily taxed. Now don't wait—don't hesitate—you risk nothing but a two-cent stamp—and after the trial you will "Swear By The Checkerboard Bag." Send the coupon order this week.

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|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-----|
| 1                               | 40-lb. Bag | Purina Mash       | 125 |
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| Total Value . . . .             |            |                   | 450 |
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PURINA FATTENING FEED may be ordered instead of any of the above, 40-lbs. \$1.00.

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## An Amateur Experience.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—The following account of amateur poultry keeping might be of interest to some of your readers, especially beginners:

I think my poultry quarters measure about fifty feet square, divided into two yards, and in addition we use part of the kitchen yard for sitting hens and young broods. We have a range of perhaps three-quarters of an acre, in which we turn the young chickens daily and the hens for an hour or two before night. This range is some unoccupied city lots next to us. We live in the city, but in a new part, so that we have the temporary use of the range mentioned.

Last spring, '04, we bought a few hens and raised some chicks, but kept no account. They were picked up in the market, very good but not of any one kind, nor very select.

On January 1st last we began keeping account. Had ten hens and sixteen pullets hatched too late last year to begin laying till this spring, and one cock. March 1st bought a trio of B. P. Rocks for \$5, and killed old rooster. Since then have killed seven of the hens, so have now twenty-two hens and one rooster.

In the feed account I have charged the feed consumed by two pairs of Homer pigeons bought three months ago, and their four pairs squabs, and there are innumerable sparrows that help themselves.

From January 1st to July 1st we got 1550 eggs; set about 250 of them, and during that time eggs have been worth not less than 20 cents per dozen, so the 110 dozen eggs eaten or sold have been worth \$22. Of course the stock have got the kitchen scraps from our

small family of four, and we have paid \$17.50 for feed. That shows a profit of eggs over feed of \$4.50.

I said we had set about 250 eggs. They hatched well, and we have had no sickness—only one case of gapes, which we cured, but hens have killed a number, and other natural causes probably account for some mortality. Some three or four weeks ago we became convinced that something was killing chicks, and tearing up the floor of house revealed the fact that rats had been feasting on quantities, so we began a warfare, and seemingly got rid of them. We have now, saved from the rats, about 125 chicks of various ages, most of which should live till we feel disposed to make use of them. This looks like a fairly profitable six months; of course the feed bill is now considerably larger than earlier, and the next six months may not show so well.

Now as to feeding. This is not done according to the best authorities, because it is too much trouble. They get no hot breakfast, but the "mash" is mixed with cold water. We give them about as much as they want for breakfast when we get ready, fairly early, then grain about midday, and in the evening—chiefly whole or cracked corn, wheat, and oats. The hens don't scratch and sing all day, but do a fair amount of it. The youngsters roam on the vacant lots most of the day, and the hens late in the evening for a while.

I find FARM-POULTRY very interesting, and get food points from it, but don't carry them all out, as we raise chicks only for our own use and pleasure. B.

Norfolk, Va.

## Mr. Foss Buys Eggs.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—I wish to correct an error which seems to be in the minds of some of your readers.

They seem to think I am a seller of eggs for hatching, and not a buyer. I would say I purchase from 100 to 2000 eggs every year, and sell but few, and I have never made a complaint of poor hatches, and never shall. I cannot see why Mr. Bryant or any other man can blame the seller of eggs for hatching for what any one may do to them after he has delivered them safely to the express company. He has no control of them after that. No merchant delivers poor goods to his customers for the privilege of sending the second lot for nothing. Neither does a man sell poor eggs knowingly; and after they have left his hands he has no means of knowing what treatment they have. And there is no reason why he should spend his time in answering fault finding letters when his time is more than taken up in answering legitimate correspondence. The beginner has no knowledge of

the time it takes to answer letters in the busy season of the year.

I know of no other branch of live stock dealing where a certain number of young is guaranteed to the buyer of stock. He may get fifteen pigs and the sow kill them all, but I never knew a man to get another hog for nothing on that account. No more should a man be asked to give another lot of eggs for nothing or half price.

As far as staying in business goes, there are many breeders like the editor, who do not try to please every one, still stay in business at the old stand, without an order for eggs from a single kicker.

I would say that in buying the thousands of eggs for hatching which I have, I do not think that any man has knowingly tried to cheat me in any way. And if we could know the facts of both sides of every case we should find far less cheating than we now think.

GEORGE E. FOSS.

Hopkinton, N. H.

## Nothing New Under the Sun.

**IN THIS** department last month we referred to an article which appeared in the June number of *Poultry* over the signature of Dr. N. W. Sanborn, wherein he produces evidence in support of the theory that fowls do not eat grit for the purpose of grinding their food, that the food is entirely digested by secretions of the digestive organs, and that grit contains necessary elements of food for the fowls. Dr. Louis Dechman of Needham, Mass., calls our attention to the fact that this matter was brought out by him also in the June number of *Reliable Poultry Journal*. He states that this has been one of his favorite theories for years, and by inference claims that he is the original source of the theory. The June number of *Poultry* reached us a few weeks after the June *Reliable Poultry Journal*, but we first noticed it in *Poultry*, and had not read it in *R. P. J.* at the time our comment was written, hence we attributed it solely to Dr. Sanborn.—*Successful Poultry Journal*.

Here are two men, both M. D.'s, trying to steal each other's thunder, and each claiming to be the original source of a theory that has been known to some poultrymen for years. As far back as 1881, we believe, in an article

in the *New England Farmer*, then published at Boston, the writer made the statement that grit was not used to grind the grain of fowls. Some years later in *Ohio Poultry Journal* we advanced the same theory, and in the August, 1904, *Standard*, we made a similar assertion, giving the result of some experiments showing the quantity of grit consumed by fowls on various kinds of feed. Many prominent poultrymen have coincided with our opinion as to the use of grit, while others have taken exceptions to it.

Theories are advanced and discoveries made, discussed for a time and are forgotten. Then in a few years they are revived and brought forth in all their original glory. A striking example of this is hopper feeding, which is just now having a boom; when the writer was a boy (that was a good many years ago) my father purchased several pens of pure bred Cochins fowls, and the fancier who sold them to him explained the advantages of hopper feeding, and gave instructions to the carpenter how to build the feed boxes. The fowls were given wheat only, and of course did not do well. Then there came a tirade against hopper feeding; a mash and litter in which to scatter the grain was advocated. It seems all theories are on a wheel which keeps revolving; part of the time some of them are on top and the others out of sight, but the obscure ones soon rise to the surface again. It is a verification of the old saw, "There is nothing new under the sun."

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R. I. Poultry Association,

DEC. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1905.

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## Scalawag and Scalawaging.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—The item, "Ethics of the Egg Trade," in your last number is O. K., if all men were like our editor, who seems to be a believer of the *old* Golden Rule, but the Golden Rule revised being "Do others or others will do you," puts a man in a different position altogether, especially if he is selling eggs for hatching, for while there are scalawag poultry breeders, there are many more scalawaging buyers, so that after a breeder has done more than his part to please his customer, and finds out later he got pinched, it doesn't seem just the proper thing to oblige him to do the same for the next, although the circumstances in the next case may be the same, the claim might be justified.

For example—being a breeder of Barred P. Rocks, selling stock or eggs for hatching, last March a young man came to my place, wishing to start in the chicken business, and get some eggs from my best stock, which was to be hatched in an incubator. I let him have the number of eggs required, same as I was using myself, with each egg marked, and date on same, so that he got all good fresh eggs, that I knew were averaging good per cent. fertile, taking care to collect them two or three times a day that none should get chilled, he taking same with him by train, packed in basket of cut clover.

Please note letter received after third week, and let me know just what you would have done under the same circumstances:

"Mr. F.:—I regret to say that the eggs I bought from you were not fertile, and consequently they did not hatch. On account of the cold weather the eggs were chilled.

"After the 22d day we broke the eggs, and found them just as would find them in the nest. Just a little thick.

"Will you kindly make the eggs good to me by giving me 20 more that are laid now, and I think the weather is such I will have good success.

"Advise if you will do that for me by return mail, and oblige, and I will run down this week and get them."

I knew this young man well (or at least I thought I did), and wishing him success and a pleased customer, of course, wrote him I would replace the eggs, which I did. Of course his letter showed he did not test the eggs, which is customary, but made an allowance for this, he being a beginner, but when he called for the other eggs I asked him if he had other eggs in the incubator (as I knew the number I let him have, 20, would not fill his machine), and he said he had, all hatching well except the B. P. R. with not one fertile egg. And do you know what I thought that man was after giving me such a reply? Well, it isn't always best for a person to speak just what he thinks, but I had a number of things come after that, so about a week later I chanced to meet an old W. Wyandotte breeder, and, of course, got talking chickens, when one thing led to another until we spoke of eggs, and I asked him what luck he was having in hatching, and if selling many, and had any bad reports from outside. His reply was that he had got but one call to replace eggs this season, and that was from —, such a place. Well, I said, that seems rather queer. I got a same report from the same place, and mine was from Mr. —. "Well, that's the same fellow I let have eggs, and he told me he had some B. P. R. eggs in his machine that hatched fine, but there wasn't a good Wyandotte egg in the lot, and asked if I would replace the eggs, and I like a — fool, gave him more eggs." Well, what we said about that fellow wouldn't look well in print, so will leave it to our readers to decide who was the "Scalawag" in this case, which is like thousands of others that a breeder is up against, and then if he refuses to make good a shipment of eggs, "why, he is a skin," and is a skin because he has been driven to it by just such instances as above mentioned, so that any breeder willing to replace all honest demands (as most breeders are) and guarantees to do this, should mark his eggs before shipping, then the buyer receiving such eggs has confidence in the shipper from the start, and then if the eggs do not prove as guaranteed,

return the poor eggs to shipper, charges prepaid, who will not only be willing to replace the poor eggs, but will put in a few extra to offset the return charges on poor eggs. I have never met a breeder who would not do this,—but any buyer receiving eggs not having the breeder's mark on them should understand that such eggs will not be replaced under any circumstances, and if he did not wish to take chances on such eggs should return same at once, demanding his money, which the shipper should return, less the express charges, unless it was understood that these eggs were not guaranteed before they were shipped; in this case it was the buyer's fault, and should be the loser.

I cannot see any reason why there need be so much dissatisfaction in the egg trade if it were conducted on business principles, and while a man's word is no longer a guarantee in business form, it is for the seller to make good his guarantee, while the buyer must show up his poor stock in placing his claim, for under such examples as our editor and Mr. Bryant gives in the late issue of F.-P., one-half of this great world would never do business with the other half, which is certainly all wrong. E

Had I been in Mr. F.'s place with fertility good and eggs hatching well at home, I would not have duplicated the eggs under the circumstances. I had a similar experience once in selling a sitting of eggs to a "friend of a friend" of mine, the sale being made through the mutual friend. The party who wanted the eggs occupied such a position of trust and responsibility that in advance of such developments as came to light in this incident would have made even a hint that he would descend to petty crookedness in so small a matter a gratuitous insult. He first ordered a sitting of eggs delivered at his home on a certain date, to be paid for on delivery. He was not at home when I took the eggs there, but his mother said he had told her not to take them, as he had been unable to get a sitting hen, and wanted the eggs fresh when he got the hen. He would let me know then. As the original order was an unconditional one, and I have always made it a rule not to put myself in a position where the same man could inconvenience, annoy or defraud me the same way more than once, I politely informed her that if Mr. M.— wanted eggs from me he must pay for them in advance, and his order would be filled in its place in rotation, which as orders then stood would be about two weeks away.

The friend through whom the order was given me was quite indignant about the position I took, and thought I should have been more accommodating. Mr. —, he said, was not willing to pay in advance—considered the requirement a reflection on him. I said I could not see it in that light. It was merely putting him on the same footing with other customers. Finally our mutual friend said to me. "If I agree to take the eggs here at such a time as you say you can fill the order, will you deliver them here to be paid for on delivery,—or I'll pay for them myself now."

I told him that if he made it his order he could have the eggs at such a time, and pay any time he wanted to. He was a man I had done business with for years, and knew was absolutely straight and reliable.

I left the eggs with him at the time agreed upon, and he paid for them.

Rather more than three weeks afterwards I was in his place of business and he said that — reported not a single chick, and thought he should have another sitting of eggs, adding that he thought so too.

I told him that knowing what I did of hatches from eggs from the pen from which —'s eggs came, I would not replace an egg for the Angel Gabriel, though he should swear that every egg was absolutely clear. For several months after that our relations were not the most cordial. Then it came to me directly that Mr. — had a nice lot of chicks from my eggs, and I dropped in on our mutual friend one day and suggested that

The

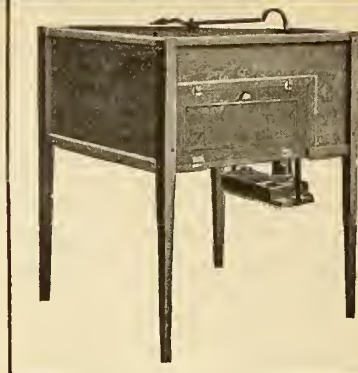
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Natural Incubator supplies the eggs with just the right amount of natural, living air, always at the proper temperature. It not only hatches the largest percentage possible of fertile eggs, but also hatches strong, vigorous, healthy chicks, with constitutions sufficient to enable them to live to maturity. This is why the Natural is becoming the leading incubator of the world.

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he call on — and look at his chickens. After that call the coolness between friends shifted.

It looks arbitrary, not to say ugly sometimes, to take, whether of necessity or by choice, a stand which puts you in the position of questioning the veracity or judgment of persons of good reputation and ability, but as a poultryman and poultry editor as well as in other matters, I have found it safest to act in accordance with facts when you have knowledge of them, and with generally recognized principles. An improbable thing is not

made to me certain or even probable, because highly endorsed. I am inclined to think rather that the endorsers have been deceived or rash.

In the matter of replacing eggs the seller's judgment should be the best judgment. He knows the facts — all the facts — better than any one else. It is to his interest to be fair, and I do not think he is often in danger of turning down the wrong request for duplicating eggs, if he watches his results as he should. If he does not know how his eggs are doing that is another matter.

## Alternating Males.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—Is it a good plan to alternate males, in the breeding pen, which are not own brothers? I have noticed several times where better fertility was said to have resulted by this alternating of males, but have always understood the males were brothers.

Have been reading J. K. Felch's articles in April and May, 1901, numbers, on line breeding, and thought I would follow his system. I have twelve spring pullets from one breeder, and two two-year-old cocks (from a different breeder) and I had intended putting the pullets all in one pen and alternating males, every day. In case the roosters are not own brothers it would be impossible to keep a pedigree of the male line, would it not? as the product of this mating, while being half blood to the females, would be one-quarter blood to each of the males. Is my reasoning correct? And would it be better to divide the pullets and make two pens, not alternating males?

What is your idea in general in this question of alternating males to increase fertility? Do you think it is any more effective than decreasing the number of pullets in a pen and making up another pen?

Will just add that I intend working into the market, egg and poultry business with White Plymouth Rocks. What I know of poultry is mostly what I have learned from close reading of FARM-POULTRY, and keeping a few hens on city lot.

Am following your advice by retaining my city position till the poultry business grows. Have fifty acres of land rented. E. G. C.

In my own yards I want no alternate male matings. There are several reasons for this. In the first place I am rather skeptical about the claim that good fertility sometimes found when males are alternated is due to the practice. There have been many cases of poor fertility where males were alternated, and many of good fertility where they were not. So without any wish to reflect on the judgment of those who believe that an alternating males is reasonably sure to give better fertility, I cannot avoid the opinion that they are judging too much by the experiences that favor this view, and not giving due consideration to those — whether their own or of others — that do not.

In case males are alternated in a pen, one male might be absolutely inefficient, yet fertility from the pen good, because the other male was unusually serviceable. Now it might happen that such a male distributed his services so that the results were obtained without excessive service on his part, but it would not be likely to happen that way more than once in a hundred times. In the other ninety-nine, good fertility under such conditions would represent a very great number of superfluous services to some hens, a heavy drain on the vigor of the male, and generally chicks not up to the parent stock in constitutional vitality.

Then there is the question:—Suppose both males equally good in fertility, but one producing chicks of exceptional quality, the other only ordinary to poor chicks. How is the breeder to know which is the good breeding fowl? Not all breeders will agree as to the necessity of knowing the dams of all the chicks, but I do not think anyone who has any interest in breeding and in the past and future quality of his stock is willing to remain ignorant of the breeding qualities of the males he uses, for the male makes an impression on chicks of every hen he serves, while each hen affects only her own chicks.

As to pedigree breeding: Pedigree is of little value except as it represents quality and excellence in every individual in the line, and the ability to transmit them. We look for like qualities and excellencies in fowls of the same breeding. We get them generally in proportion as their ancestors have been selected for these qualities. A pedigree is simply a record of breeding of two animals or fowls having the same pedigree; one may be a phenomenal exhibition and breeding fowl, another fit only for the pot. There not only "may be" such difference, but it is the common thing. Pedigree without quality counts for nothing, and pedigree and quality without prepotency die, so far as an individual is concerned, with that individual.

Again the mere keeping of a record of breeding — pedigreeing one's fowls — does not mean anything more than that such record is made, unless the statement of pedigree represents merit and quality all along the line. It is not necessary that the stock should be all phenomenal or phenomenal at all. Good average all round merit is hard enough to get and well worth working for, but the merit must be there or the pedigree becomes only a paper claim.

In my own experience I have had the best general results in improving fertility in eggs and vitality in chicks by reducing the hens in the matings to the lowest number the male would be moderate with. I never used an alternate mating, because the practice never seemed to commend itself to me.

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This money has all been paid in to the secretary of the special committee on funds for this show, and the prizes will be paid promptly as soon as the marked catalogues are printed. This money will be divided into 38 prizes, with no prize less than \$10. In making up the list of prizes the interests of new exhibitors as well as those who have made the show in the past have been carefully looked after. We have secured two well known judges to place the awards on the large classes we expect to have at this show, and the judging will be promptly done.

Full list of the prizes will be printed in the premium list of the New York Poultry and Pigeon Ass'n, H. V. Crawford, secretary, Montclair, N. J.

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## A Few Cases of Canker.

**EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:**—"Will you kindly answer the following questions about canker?"

What is the general cause of the disease? Is it very contagious? What disinfectant would you use to prevent the spreading of the disease? Would you breed from a fowl that has had the disease? What remedy is commonly used in the treatment of the disease?

I have kept poultry where I now live for five years, and have not had any trouble with sickness until last fall, when one of my birds took canker. She died soon after I discovered that she was sick, and as none of the rest took it I paid no attention to it. Now this fall I've had one die from it, and two more have it. My hen house is kept very clean. Droppings boards cleaned every morning. Have a gravel floor; gravel is taken out and fresh put in about three times a year.

House is whitewashed twice a year. Fowls have a range of six acres, well covered with clover and other grasses. Feed whole grain in the morning, and mash at night. House is 8 x 12, 6 ft. high, with scratching shed, same size, attached. I have about fifty birds in this house at night. The youngsters I keep in coops. I have two windows in the house which I take out in summer time, and tack curtains loosely over the openings. There is no draft on the fowls while they are on the roost.

Do you think that perhaps I am roosting more hens in this house than I ought to? My fowls look to be in good condition, considering the fact that they are molting. Have always been successful with my poultry. G. R.

Canker is generally considered a mild form of diphtheria. Diphtheria is a germ disease which may remain latent for a long time, then develop under favorable conditions, or in fowls especially susceptible to it. I would not advise treating such cases, but would kill all sick birds in which the disease seemed to be increasing. Salmon recommends the application of a two per cent solution of creolin or pure carbolic acid in water to the diphtheritic spots three times a day, and the injection of a small quantity of the solution into the nostrils.

Personally, I would not bother treating a fowl that had diphtheria or canker, but would kill every affected bird as fast as discovered. My experience has been that that is the best and cheapest way. As long as I doctored

such cases I had outbreaks in my flocks occasionally. The epidemic to which I applied the heroic treatment I advise was my last. For disinfection of houses and yards Salmon recommends a five per cent solution of carbolic acid, the process of disinfection to be repeated once a week as long as the disease remains.

The disease is contagious. A fowl that has had it, even in a mild form, it is not advisable to use for breeding purposes.

Mr. R.'s hens are rather crowded, and that may be the cause of the trouble breaking out again.

### Experience With Rye.

You may care to have my experience with feeding rye. The rye was good. At the same time I brought home some wheat just threshed from a wet stack. The fowls ate the wheat greedily, but simply scattered the rye. I tried it about two weeks, and gave up feeding it—too much waste. I did not care to starve growing fowls, so that they had to eat it or perish. They would not eat enough to produce the looseness of bowels mentioned in one book. I shall eat the rye myself if I cannot sell it. I have fed wheat, corn, Kaffir corn, oats, barley, sunflower seed, and cow peas, and rye seems to be the most unpalatable. Have not tried buckwheat.

Virgilina, Va.

JOHN LEWIS.

### For a Connecticut State Poultry Association.

Every person interested in the poultry industry of Connecticut is invited to meet at the committee rooms of the West Haven Poultry Association, Wednesday, Nov. 22d, at 2 P.M.

The object of this meeting is to organize a State Poultry Association for the benefit of all poultrymen, both "utility" and "fancy" breeders, and it is the desire of the promoters to have for its officers men from all branches of the poultry industry of the state. It is hoped that every class shall be represented as well as every county in the state.

If you cannot attend, but would like to be considered one of the promoters or charter members, or if you desire any special information regarding the association, write to

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"The Deadly Parallel Column."

T. E. ORR, CONCLUDING AN ARTICLE ON THE A. P. A., IN Poultry.

"So, Mr. Editor, give us a few of your pungent paragraphs each month on what this old association has done, and suggest a few, a very few, plain, practical, possible things that it should do within the next year. DON'T ALLOW YOURSELF OR ANY OF YOUR CORRESPONDENTS TO MAR THE BEAUTIFUL PAGES OF Poultry WITH PETTY PERSONALITIES. Let us all stick to two or three simple texts that bear as their burden of truth, 'the greatest good to the greatest number.'"

T. E. ORR, REFERRING TO EDITOR OF F.-P., IN SAME ARTICLE.

"As a member of the association, however, we expect you, [the editor of Poultry] to work your reforms from the inside, and not from without, as does that New England editor who prides himself on being an outsider, yet feels it his duty to find fault with everything that is done. I suppose because he was born an Ishmaelite—his hand arrayed against every other man's hand."

Comment is unnecessary. Mr. Orr, being so well acquainted with the Scriptures, is doubtless familiar with the sermon to those who "say and do not," contained in the twenty-third chapter of Matthew, but we would suggest that he read it again, and note that its characterization of a class distinguished for the qualities illustrated by the above parallel would seem to make a mere Ishmaelite appear a tolerably decent sort of person by comparison.

Advises "R. W."

Editor FARM-POULTRY:—As one of your subscribers, I venture to write to "R. W." (p. 422) whose letter appears in issue of Oct. 1, '05.

I have had over eighteen months experience in managing a small flock of fine blooded White Wyandottes, and were I to write here the truth of my start and finish in the poultry line, I do not think that there is a poultry paper printed that would give it space.

I was a sick man like "R. W." and paid \$2 apiece for hens and \$3 for roosters from reliable breeders, and when I closed out my best offer from a fancier was 10 cents a pound for entire flock.

Now I do not want to discourage "R. W.," but would like to suggest that he be careful where he locates, and don't tell the state of his finances.

FREDERICK M. WILSON.

I don't know what another paper might do, but F.-P. would be very likely to publish the truth about Mr. Wilson's venture if he saw fit to furnish it; and would doubtless be able to find in it useful lessons for others.

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